





## EUROPEAN NEWS

## DEALS SIGNED IN TWO LONG-RUNNING DISPUTES

## Uneasy pact with dockers, steelmen

BY DAVID WHITE IN PARIS

AGREEMENTS HAVE been signed in two of the thorniest conflicts in French industrial relations — the steel industry employment cuts plan and the wage dispute involving the country's 15,000 dockers.

But it is still doubtful whether either conflict can be considered dead and buried.

Agreement on how the two leading French steel groups, Usinor and Sacilor, will shed 21,000 workers over the next two years was reached at 14 hours of talks, with the most powerful union, the Communist-led CGT, abstaining.

The pact was signed, however, by the other four steel unions. The CGT withheld its signature

because of objections to clauses concerning retraining, although the union expressed its backing for other clauses covering early retirement of some 12,000 workers.

The settlement is aimed at avoiding outright redundancies. About 4,000 steel workers are to be retrained, while more are expected to leave under a voluntary scheme which gives them a FF 50,000 (£1,500) cash payment on top of redundancy.

The CGT said that retaining terms, which give steel workers the choice of two or three other jobs and dismissal if they refuse, were really redundancy terms in disguise. It attacks what it termed "the employers' blackmail."

The other main Left-wing union, the CFDT, signed the pact after some last-minute improvements in terms. But the union faces dissent from militants in northern Lorraine, who have declared their intention of resuming protest action.

The industry's workforce is due to be cut to 110,000 or less, under the plan, which followed a virtual state takeover of the main companies last year and their re-organisation into two groups.

The seven-month dispute in the French docks, which has cost the country's ports 27 days in strikes, has been provisionally resolved with an agreement on pay between employers and the CGT, to which the over-

whelming majority of dockers belong.

The agreement includes a 5.7 per cent increase in basic wages, bringing the increase since last November to 12.61 per cent. It follows the Government's offer of a higher guaranteed minimum.

As a result, the union has called off plans for a further strike, and work in most French ports is expected to return to normal by the weekend.

But local conflicts remain in Marseilles and in the Caribbean island of Martinique, where the port of Fort-de-France has been paralysed since July 19. At the same time, some of the dockers' non-wage claims, including pension rights and holidays, still await settlement.

## Portugal's secret talks with IMF fail

By Jimmy Burns in Lisbon

PORTUGAL'S outgoing Government led by Dr. Carlos Mota Pinto has failed in what appears to have been a last ditch attempt to sign an agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

Resumption of talks between Portugal and the fund is unlikely before at least the middle of next month, by which time Dr. Maria de Lurdes Pintasilgo's new administration should have been approved by Parliament.

Banking officials yesterday revealed that M. Patrick Fontenay, head of the IMF mission to Portugal, visited Lisbon last week at the request of Sr. Mota Pinto.

The unpublished invitation was aimed at overcoming the fund's reluctance to sign the agreement without a firm commitment from the Portuguese Government to raise administrative prices.

The fund has been insisting since February that the Government raise fuel, transport, and electricity prices as well as make subsidy allocations in the 1979 budget compatible with needs of public enterprises. According to the Bank of Portugal, the Government's refusal to do this has resulted in credit ceilings to the public sector being broken in May and June.

Although the Government is believed to have offered last week to include a special clause in the agreement pledging an increase in administrative prices by the autumn, this was not felt to be an adequate guarantee.

## Strike action increasing in Yugoslavia

By Paul Lendvai in Vienna

A GROWING number of Yugoslav workers are striking because they are dissatisfied with their wages and with the self-management system. From November 1978 to May 1979, 7,880 workers took part in 23 strikes in the republic of Croatia, compared with only 1,300 workers and 17 stoppages in the previous half year, it was revealed at a recent meeting of the Croatian Trade Union Council.

Nin, the Belgrade weekly, stressed that this number was small, as total employment in Croatia reached 1.5m this year. However, the leaders of Yugoslavia, in contrast to all other Communist countries, recognise strikes and candidly talk about them.

Dr. Vladimir Bakarić, Yugoslavia's second most senior politician, a member of the state and party presidium, announced in a television interview that "strikes did us only good," since they were a battle against the denial of workers' rights.

Ruling backs Roche THE DUTCH Government has no right to order Hoffman La Roche, the Swiss pharmaceuticals manufacturer, to reduce the price of its Librium and Valium tranquilisers by an average 25 per cent in 1977, a court has ruled, writes Charles Batchelor in Amsterdam. This decision has come a week after the end of the two-year price curb, and is likely to have long-term implications for government policies aimed at restraining pharmaceutical prices. The Dutch subsidiary of Roche was ordered to reduce its prices in July 1977 on the grounds that it had misused its strong market position to the detriment of the common good.

## Soviet economy facing one of worst post-war years

BY DAVID SATTER IN MOSCOW

THE SOVIET economy, which had a disastrous first quarter, staged a modest recovery in the second quarter, but the improvement was not enough to offset the continued movement towards one of the worst years in Soviet post-war economic history.

Figures for the first half of 1979 show industrial production rose by only 3.5 per cent, compared with a target in the plan of 5.7 per cent. The rate of growth in the second quarter was 4 per cent, but even if output continues to expand at the second quarter rate, the industrial figures will be the worst since at least 1951.

There were no figures for agriculture production because

the harvest has only just started, but there seems little prospect of agriculture making up for shortfalls in industrial production.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has estimated a Soviet grain harvest this year of only 185m tonnes, compared with a target of 228.9m tonnes. A harvest of anywhere near this size would be a massive setback for the economy, which is counting on agricultural production increasing by 5.8 per cent.

The six-month figures, published in the weekly Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta, showed that industrial labour productivity grew by only 2.5 per cent, compared with a very modest 4.7 per cent target. The growth in

the second quarter was only 3 per cent, indicating underlying problems in increasing efficiency which appear to have been exacerbated only slightly by last winter's severe weather.

The Soviet economy failed to meet its growth targets for oil, steel, coal, electricity, pipe, ready-rolled metal, and fertiliser production. Production of steel, ready-rolled metal and fertilisers were all lower in volume terms than during the first half of 1978.

Perhaps most worrying to Soviet planners would be the continued decline in the increase in oil production, which rose by only 3 per cent in the first half of the year. Oil production came to 287m tonnes, a total shortfall of 9.5m tonnes.

## Schmidt 'confident on dollar'

BY JONATHAN CARR IN BONN

CHANCELLOR Helmut Schmidt has returned from a visit to the U.S. convinced that the main lines of American policy will remain unchanged despite the reshuffling of President Carter's administration.

During his five-day private trip, Herr Schmidt was able to assure himself in particular that the U.S. commitment to defend the dollar would remain at least as strong under the new Treasury Secretary, Mr. William Miller, as it had under his predecessor, Mr. Michael Blumenthal.

The continued presence of Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, and Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, the national security adviser, spoke for continuity in

foreign and defence policy — not least in the Administration's undiminished resolve to see the SALT Two accord with the Soviet Union ratified by Congress.

Herr Schmidt has repeatedly stressed the importance he attaches to ratification. Although Herr Schmidt's visit was originally described as a holiday stay near San Francisco with his old friend, Mr. George Schultz, the former U.S. Treasury Secretary, the Chancellor clearly used the chance for wide-ranging contacts with leading figures both in and out of government.

Mr. Schmidt met separately with Mr. Miller, Mr. Brzezinski, Dr. Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, General Alexander Haig, the former NATO supreme commander, and ex-President Gerald Ford.

## Stringent steps taken to curb health costs

BY ROBERT MAUTHNER IN PARIS

THE FRENCH Government yesterday adopted a stringent rescue plan for the heavily indebted social security system, whose cumulative deficit was expected to amount to FF 24bn (about £2.5bn) by the end of 1980 in the absence of corrective measures.

The plan, which will come into effect on August 1, is aimed mainly at reducing the rapidly rising costs of the national health service, which are currently rising at an annual rate of nearly 23 per cent, compared with about 17.5 per cent a year ago.

The main burden of financing the deficit will be borne by wage and salary earners whose social security contributions have been raised by 1 per cent for a period of 18 months, doctors, whose fees for the treatment of

national health patients have been temporarily frozen and state hospitals, whose spending will be much more strictly controlled.

M. Jacques Barrot, the Health and Social Security Minister, who recently replaced Mme. Simone Veil, the newly-elected president of the European Parliament, emphasised, however, that employers' social security contributions would not be increased. This decision, which has been criticised by the unions for being discriminatory, was taken so as not to aggravate the already low rate of economic expansion foreseen for the current year.

In addition to these measures, the state will make what is described as an "exceptional contribution" of FF 2bn to

FF 4bn to the social security system in 1979 and 1980 and will guarantee short-term loans to the system of up to FF 5bn, reimbursable during the first half of next year.

Under the plan, scheduled increases in doctors' and dentists' fees in the autumn of this year and at the beginning of 1980 have been cancelled, corresponding to a reduction in their net annual incomes of about 1.5 per cent.

Chemists, too, will see their revenues reduced by a similar amount as a result of a reduction of the rebates they receive from the social security system on the cost of the pharmaceutical products which they sell. A temporary tax on the advertising of pharmaceuticals will also be imposed.

From next year onwards, however, a new regulation will be applied to limit both hospital expenditure and medical costs in general, which include doctors' fees and the cost of their prescriptions. Broadly, the new rules will not be allowed to rise by more than the increase in GNP.

The strict budgeting criteria to which the state hospitals have been subjected will save an estimated FF 8bn. The temporary rise in social security contributions is expected to bring in an extra FF 12bn, while the remaining FF 4bn of a total financing requirement of FF 24bn by the end of next year will be provided by the special state subsidy and the contributions made by the medical and pharmaceutical professions.

## Car industry buoyant in first half of year

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

A SOLID improvement in output, an even more buoyant progression in sales and a strong increase in exports have been achieved by the French car industry in the first half of this year.

The results underline the unexpectedly strong car sales in France during a period when consumer spending in general

has been slackening off. But the motor industry's overall record for the year has been blotted to some extent by the continuing crisis in the commercial vehicle sector, which is suffering from the slack investment conditions.

Over the six-month period, car sales rose by 4.4 per cent compared with last year's first

half to 1,065,000, while production went up by 3.5 per cent to 1,717,000 and exports by 4.3 per cent to 876,000.

On the commercial side, while sales of vehicles of below 6 tonnes went up by 5.0 per cent to 144,300, those of the heavier units fell again by 2.6 per cent to 22,700.

Production of all vans and trucks declined during the period, lighter vehicles by 4.8 per cent to 188,000, and by a substantial 12.8 per cent (23,700) for the heavier lorries. Exports were also down heavily, by 4.8 per cent (at 68,000) and 17.8 per cent (at 10,600) respectively.

## Dissidents emerge in Red Brigades

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN ROME

REMARKABLE evidence has surfaced for the first time of a profound split within the membership of the Red Brigades, the Italian terrorist group responsible for killing the former Prime Minister, Aldo Moro.

Hitherto, the organisation has given every appearance of monolithic self-belief and single-mindedness. But this assumption has been dispelled by the publication of a 30-page document apparently emanating from a so-called "dissident" Red Brigades faction, bitterly critical of the leadership's strategy.

The document was mysteriously left in the offices here of Lotta Continua ("Unending Struggle"), the ultra-Left newspaper, which published its text in full yesterday.

If the text is genuine (and the signs are that it is), it provides not only exceptional evidence of arguments within the terrorist group, but also throws a new perspective on Red Brigades activities in the last few months, and counteraction by the police.

The dissidents, whose philosophy is clearly close to that of

the "autonomist" movement, accuse the top strategists of losing touch with reality, and of excessive authoritarianism. The policy of carefully targeted strikes against individuals (most famous Sig. Moro, but only 10 days ago Sig. Antonio "arisco", a Carabinieri colonel in central Rome) had completely isolated the group from the proletariat whose battle it claimed to be fighting.

The authors of the document are firm believers in the use of violence. But they insist that this should be carried out on a broader front against targets which mobilise the entire working class in sympathy. The apparent division between the so-called "Leninist" wing and the dissidents makes it hard to see how Sig. Togliatti, the Padua university professor and chief theoretician of the group, has been the mastermind of the "autonomist" movement, an entire Red Brigades organisation, as has been suggested.

● Owing to an agency error, the photograph of Sig. Pietro Nenni which appeared on page 2 of yesterday's Financial Times was wrongly captioned as Sig. Amintore Fanfani.

## COMPANY NOTICES

**BEARER DEPOSITORY RECEIPTS**  
Representing Preferred Stock of  
BAXTER TRAVEL  
International Capital Corporation  
The following bearer depository receipts are available for sale at a discount of 10% on the face value of the stock. The minimum order is \$100.00. The maximum order is \$500.00. The receipts are valid for 10 years. The receipts are valid for 10 years. The receipts are valid for 10 years.

**HOPE STREET FUND S.A.**  
The shareholders are hereby informed that the Annual General Meeting of the company will be held on Thursday, 26th July 1979, at 10.00 a.m. at the offices of the company, 14, rue Airligne, Luxembourg. The agenda of the meeting is as follows: 1. Approval of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 1978. 2. Election of directors for the year 1979. 3. Any other business.

**MURRAY FUND S.A.**  
The shareholders are hereby informed that the Annual General Meeting of the company will be held on Thursday, 26th July 1979, at 10.00 a.m. at the offices of the company, 14, rue Airligne, Luxembourg. The agenda of the meeting is as follows: 1. Approval of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 1978. 2. Election of directors for the year 1979. 3. Any other business.

**THE BANK OF YOKOHAMA, LTD.**  
The bank is pleased to announce that it has opened a new branch in London at 15, Abchurch Lane, EC4A 3DF. The branch will be open for business from Monday, 30th July 1979.

**BRUGUAY S.A. CONSOLIDATED**  
The company is pleased to announce that it has opened a new branch in London at 15, Abchurch Lane, EC4A 3DF. The branch will be open for business from Monday, 30th July 1979.

## ART GALLERIES

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## LEGAL NOTICES

In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
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**REGENCY SQUARE LIMITED**  
(REGISTRY SQUARE) LIMITED  
TANGENTINE DESIGNS LIMITED  
PAMA RECORDS LIMITED  
BRITISH INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED  
HIDALGO INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED  
VERMINSTER LIMITED  
NINA BELL LIMITED  
SIMCROSS LIMITED  
J. W. GREEN LIMITED  
MURPHY SLATER LIMITED  
OAKHURST FINANCE LIMITED  
SPEARWELL PROPERTIES LIMITED  
STYLOS MANAGEMENT SERVICES LIMITED

**TANGENTINE DESIGNS LIMITED**  
(LINDFIELD) LIMITED  
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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF CARDIFF**  
61m 1979 at a rate of 13.25-14.50 per 100 pence. Applications for 1979 at a rate of 13.25-14.50 per 100 pence. Applications for 1979 at a rate of 13.25-14.50 per 100 pence.

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Supper from 10.30-11.30. Disco and...  
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## ROMANIA changes stance on economic strategy

BY PAUL LENDVAI IN VIENNA

ROMANIA'S DEFTANT walking out from a recent international meeting of Communist Party secretaries in East Berlin has overshadowed what East European observers regard as an important change in the country's economic strategy.

At the same time as Mr. Virgil Cazacu, the Romanian representative, was refusing to sign a Soviet-sponsored resolution condemning China and the Egyptian-Israeli peace accord, Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, the Romanian President and party leader, was delivering two speeches in Bucharest about the Government's forthcoming five-year plan.

His addresses to the Communist Party central committee and the guidelines approved by this supreme decision-making body indicate some reversal of Romania's long-standing policy of all-out growth.

For the first time since he became party chief 14 years ago, Mr. Ceausescu announced a substantial reduction of the industrial growth rate and of the investment ratio of the GNP. He made it clear that the world energy crisis will enforce what

he called a "certain restructuring" within industry. Manufacturing processes with excessive energy consumption will be either closed down or severely limited.

Mr. Ceausescu believes that such measures, coupled with stringent economies in energy and fuel consumption and accelerated development of domestic resources, should bring about a considerable reduction of imports of crude oil by 1985 and virtual self-sufficiency by 1990.

But even with the development of alternative energy sources, such as the commissioning of the first nuclear plant by 1985 and a 56 to 60 per cent rise in coal output by 1985, it is difficult to believe that such an ambitious goal can be attained.

More than 85 per cent of the 85m to 88m tons of targeted coal production for 1985 will be poor quality lignite. Oil reserves are running out and domestic output will drop from 13.7m tons last year, even in the best of circumstances, to 12.5m tons by 1985.

The industrial growth rate will be "only" 3 to 9 per cent per annum between 1981-85, a marked slowing compared with the 11 per cent average for the past three years, and the 13 per cent over the previous five.

The already extremely ambitious 1978-80 plan, approved by the last party congress in 1974, was revised upward by a national party conference at the end of the same year. It raised for example, the projected annual growth of national income to between 10 and 11 per cent. Thus the annual growth of 6.7 to 7.4 per cent set for the coming five-year period also represents a significant reduction.

But perhaps the most important political signal is the decline of the share of investments in terms of GNP from 34 per cent to 30 per cent, beginning with 1981. Before the accession of Mr. Ceausescu to power, the investment ratio in 1961-65 was about 24 per cent. In the next five-year plan it averaged 29 per cent and in 1970 it had been to 34.

To produce \$1,000 of GNP, Romania burns three times as much conventional fuel as, for example, Italy, Sweden or West

Germany. The new directives call for a 21 to 23 per cent cut in the use of energy by industry.

Revealing details about the state of an over-extended economy emerged from speeches delivered at last spring's conference of 6,000 managers and experts. Mr. Gheorghe Olteanu, more drastic reduction of the Deputy Premier, admitted that last year the plan targets for 775 products were not fulfilled, and that as a result of negligence and poor labour discipline machinery and equipment were not utilised properly, with numerous breakdowns recorded.

Romanian newspapers complained that costly imported machinery for petrochemical, paper and metal plants was lying unused for months. One of the weakest spots is traditionally agriculture. Mr. Angelo Miclesu, the Minister of Agriculture, revealed that cereal output in the 1976-78 period was 10 per cent below the projected level.

Mr. Ceausescu underlined the key role of agriculture, which he said should be regarded as important as securing adequate fuel and energy supplies. Yet this crucial sector will receive only 10 per cent of investment outlay during the next five-year plan, as it did under the previous one.

One of Romania's foremost economists shows up the problem. "What we need is a much more drastic reduction of the economy cannot be based on rhetorical solutions but only on expertise, efficiency and motivation."

With 70 per cent of industrial equipment installed during the 1970s, Romania should be well-placed to attain the status of a developed country by 1985-90. Mr. Ceausescu has told Romania's 22m population that their food consumption and the supply of clothing and footwear are already up to the level of the developed countries.

But as long as workers are not offered meaningful incentives as producers and consumers and as long as growth rates are based on "political" motivated "success" reports of party members instead of a realistic assessment of the conditions, Romania's economic outlook seems likely to remain bleak.



## Hectic activity in bid to form India government

By K. K. SHARMA IN NEW DELHI

TWO RIVAL claims to form a new government in India are being considered by President Sanjiv Reddy. Mr. Moraji Desai and Mr. Charan Singh both submitted lists of supporters in the lower house of parliament yesterday and both claim absolute majorities.

The president is likely to spend the next couple of days before choosing.

Hectic political activity preceded the submission of the controversial lists, which are thought to have some common names and hence need verification. The major cause of the controversy was Mrs. Indira Gandhi, once again playing a key role in Indian politics.

Mrs. Gandhi has thrown the support of her Congress (I) party—the "I" for Indira—behind Mr. Charan Singh. This has caused confusion since Mr.

Charan Singh is committed to combat "authoritarianism," a euphemism for Mrs. Gandhi. It has also caused consternation in the official Congress party whose leaders, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, failed to form an alternative government when asked by the president.

Mr. Charan Singh, who was dropped from the cabinet last year when he accused Mr. Desai of being a "pack of important men" for failing to act against Mrs. Gandhi, has been forced to seek the former Prime Minister's support, since without it he cannot hope for a majority.

Mrs. Gandhi has her own reasons for giving the support. She and her son, Sanjay, and others face charges of abuse of power and other crimes. The courts are in session and Mrs. Gandhi has been summoned to

make her first appearance on July 30.

She apparently hopes to be able to put pressure on the government to ease the legal pressure on herself and Sanjay and their supporters. Mrs. Gandhi also calculates that she will be in a position to withdraw her support when she thinks it opportune and to force a mid-term election when it suits her, a shrewd move to bring her back to the centre of politics.

But it has so sharply divided the official Congress party—from which she broke away last year—that its senior members have demanded that the "opportunistic alliance" be ended immediately. This is likely to split further the Congress party, which is officially in alliance with Mr. Charan Singh's Janata (S)—the "S" for Secular.

## Deng opponents in rural China

By Colina MacDougall

OPPOSITION BY ultra Leftists to the liberal policies of Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping is a real danger in the rural areas, the New China News Agency has reported. The party's central committee session last December, which saw the introduction of Deng's new economic and democratic moves, has been attacked for bringing in "rightist" and "deviationist" incentive policies for peasants.

According to the NCNA analysis, these ultra Leftists are either direct beneficiaries of the policies of the "gang of four" chairman Mao's wife and her three colleagues from Shanghai, or those who opposed the gang but because of their radical views equally opposed the new freedoms and material incentives introduced since December.

At the party central committee session it was announced that prices 20 per cent higher would be paid to peasants for grain quotas while prices for grain outside the quota would rise by 50 per cent. Other agricultural products would also attract higher prices. Since then the stress on peasants' side occupations and free markets has allowed private trading to flourish and this combined with the new higher prices is leading to increased affluence.

## Strong export growth fuels Singapore economy

By GEORGIE LEE IN SINGAPORE

CONSUMER INFLATION in Singapore has been trimmed to an annual rate of 2.3 per cent, according to economic indicators released yesterday by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS).

The trade deficit has also been trimmed as export growth has outpaced imports. The figures, which deal with the first quarter of 1979, show exports rising at an annual rate of 23 per cent. As imports rose by just 18 per cent, the trade deficit has fallen to \$61.57bn (US\$781m).

Describing Singapore's economic performance as "satisfactory," the MAS reported that industrial production rose in the first quarter of 1979 by 16.7 per cent—the fastest growth rate since the first quarter of 1978. Rapid growth in the manufacturing sector was heavily responsible for this improvement.

The 23 per cent rise in value of exports was due in large part to an improvement in domestic exports. These were at an annualised rate of 22 per cent in the period under review, compared with 17 per cent in the final quarter of 1978. Meanwhile, re-exports continued to grow at a rate of 24 per cent. While the trade deficit nar-

rowed, Singapore's current account deficit widened—mainly because of a seasonal fall in earnings from tourism and transport. Growth in the tourist sector grew at a rate of 8 per cent.

The overall balance of payments surplus was better than that of a year ago, although below the surplus recorded in the final quarter of 1978. The decline resulted in part from a smaller inflow of capital in both the monetary and non-monetary sectors.

Construction activity improved, with the value of contracts rising—particularly in the private sector—for the fourth successive quarter.

## Australian plea over Rhodesia

CANBERRA — Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, has written to several Commonwealth leaders outlining his ideas on how to avoid a split between Commonwealth nations over Zimbabwe Rhodesia at next month's Lusaka conference, government officials said yesterday.

## Israel hands over more of occupied Sinai

By Our Foreign Staff

EGYPT yesterday took control of a 6,000 sq kilometre area in Sinai adjoining the oil-rich Gulf of Suez. The handover by Israel of this territory opens up new oil prospects for Egypt.

The ceremony yesterday morning went ahead smoothly, despite the inability of the two countries to agree over what form the UN force, wedged between the two armies, should take.

Egypt has said it will abide by a U.S. plan to station a UN Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) force in the area. Israel has rejected this suggestion and said failure to reach agreement could jeopardise further implementation of the treaty.

The handover was the second of five chunks of Sinai, which by January next year will leave Egypt once again in possession of the bulk of the desert peninsula, which was the site of four bloody wars between the two countries.

Two months ago, the first section of Sinai, which included the town of El Arish, was handed over by Israel in accordance with the peace treaty signed in March of this year. Three remaining sections will be handed over at intervals of two months.

About 4,000 Bedouin nomads live in the area transferred yesterday and Israel handed over schools, clinics and oil wells for the continued use of the tribesmen. The area also contains considerable resources of water which will continue to serve the operators of the Abu Roudais oil wells.

The wells were controlled by Israel from 1967 until 1975 when they were returned to Egypt under the interim agreement worked out at that time by Dr. Henry Kissinger.

For the past four years, Egyptian access to Abu Roudais has been along the narrow coastal road skirting the Gulf of Suez. The latest territorial handover will give Egypt control of the area east of that road to a depth of 110 kilometres.

## ECONOMIC PLIGHT OF WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

# Picture of stagnation and depression

By RAMI G. KHOURI IN AMMAN



AS THE Arab world observes with scepticism, despair and anger the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on "autonomy" for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, two recently completed UN reports have examined the economic and social plight of the territories. Both paint a picture of stagnation and depression resulting from 12 years of military occupation that has remorselessly subjugated them to Israel's needs and furthered the progress of de facto annexation.

One, by the International Labour Organisation, has focused on the drain of manpower into Israel's own economy and the exodus of young Palestinians, especially the educated, denied proper employment opportunities. More positively the UN Development Programme has drawn up a plan of action and has the finance to back it. At the same time the intelligentsia of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is belatedly bestirring itself to see what the Arab communities of the two territories can do themselves to stop the rot.

In New York, the Governing Council of the UNDP has approved a proposal to channel a modest \$3.5m into a programme of socio-economic development for the Palestinians. It was compiled during the past year by a 12-member-strong UN inter-agency task force.

Set up as a result of a UN General Assembly resolution passed last December, the task force studied the stagnant state of the West Bank and Gaza, and came up with what is, in effect, a rudimentary but symbolically important development plan for the Palestinian people resident in the occupied territories—something that has never been attempted before. It identified 43 separate projects that were of priority for the Palestinians and which could be implemented quickly.

Mr. Bradford Morse, the UNDP administrator, presented the governing council of the agency with a priority list of recommended projects divided into research and planning, labour, education, cultural heritage, health, agriculture, industry, trade, tourism, transport and communications, housing, and public and social institutions. This has been approved by the UNDP and has been allocated \$3.5bn to implement the projects during the next two and a half years, or until the end of the present five-year UNDP funding cycle.

Israel refused to allow the UN task force to enter the

occupied areas. Nevertheless, it went ahead with its research and in its 90-page study, the task force found that the 12-year-old Israeli occupation has brought about a fundamental re-orientation of the Palestinian economies of the West Bank and Gaza Strip that has adversely affected the economic and social development of the territories' inhabitants.

It found that the level of capital formation has been low. Industrial activity has actually fallen as a percentage of GNP from 8 to 5.4 per cent. Tourism has declined throughout the

West Bank, where it used to be a pillar of the economy before the occupation. The Palestinian transport system has been re-oriented towards Israel. Trade patterns have also changed to serve Israeli economic needs. The share of GNP of agriculture, the basic mainstay of the Palestinian economy, fell from 35 per cent before the occupation to 26 per cent in 1976.

These findings have been complemented by similar evidence published in Geneva last month by the director-general of the International Labour Organisation, who sent his own three-

man task force to study the conditions of workers in the occupied territories. This report said that between 1970 and 1975 there was an actual drop in the total number of workers on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip.

The workforce dropped by 8,000 while the economically active population increased by 34,000, the ILO report said. In the same period, the number of Palestinians working inside Israel rose from 20,000 to 70,000. Their earnings contributed one-third of the income returned to Israel to pay for Israeli exports to the captive, passive and declining economies of the West Bank and Gaza. The ILO report said 90 per cent of goods imported by the West Bank and Gaza come from Israel. In 1977 the Palestinian territories registered a trade deficit of \$2.5bn (about \$225m at the average exchange rate for that year).

Emigration of young Palestinians from the occupied territories has been running at about 20,000 a year, mainly because of their inability to find good jobs in what has become a depressed region. New jobs are not being created in the absence of investment that has been caused, most fundamentally, by the physical and psychological effects of the occupation.

The increasingly depressing situation has stimulated another move within the occupied territories themselves, to see how the tide can be stemmed. A series of sectoral conferences is being organised by the two-year-old Jerusalem-based Arab thought forum, a scientific and cultural society headed by a Palestinian lawyer, Mr. Mehdi Abdul Hadi. This month the first of four separate gatherings will take place. Experts and professional leaders from the West Bank and Gaza Strip will undertake detailed analyses of the agricultural, industrial, services and housing sectors.

At the end of this year, a major development conference will be held in East Jerusalem to discuss the papers that will be drawn up by the individual sectoral meetings. The programme has been backed by nine professional associations, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, the Labour Unions Federation, and the three Palestinian institutions of higher education.

## 'Land should be returned'

By DAVID LENNON IN TEL AVIV

MR. YITZHAK Rabin, the former Prime Minister, believes Israel should be willing to give up most of the occupied West Bank in exchange for peace. This view is shared by Gen. Aharon Yariv, former Director of Military Intelligence.

Mr. Rabin, who was chief of staff in the 1967 war, and Gen. Yariv expressed this belief at a packed meeting in Tel Aviv on Tuesday night organised by the Peace Now Movement.

The two also said Jewish settlements in the occupied territories should be concentrated in areas where they could contribute to the security of Israel. They both made it clear that this did not include the West Bank mountain range where most of the Palestinians live.

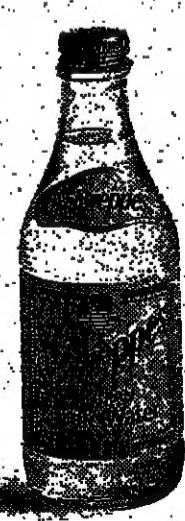
Mr. Rabin told the meeting that in order to make peace "there is no alternative but to hand back territory, and a lot of territory," he added. "The state of Israel will not survive if it must include 1.7m Arabs, and a Jewish state will not survive if those Arabs' civil rights are abrogated."

At the end of this year, a major development conference will be held in East Jerusalem to discuss the papers that will be drawn up by the individual sectoral meetings. The programme has been backed by nine professional associations, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, the Labour Unions Federation, and the three Palestinian institutions of higher education.

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## AMERICAN NEWS

Volcker appointment brings praise for Carter judgment and courage  
Independent pragmatist at the Fed

BY JOHN WYLES IN NEW YORK

PRECIOUS FEW of Mr. Jimmy Carter's actions as President have won the unqualified approval of the U.S. business establishment, but his appointment yesterday of Mr. Paul Volcker as the new chairman of the Federal Reserve Board brought an avalanche of praise for the President's judgment and perhaps even courage.

There is no doubt that domestic and international bankers believe that Mr. Volcker is almost pre-eminently qualified to lead the U.S. Central Bank at a time of pressure and uncertainty for the dollar, high inflation and severe doubts at home and abroad about the strength and quality of the country's political leadership.

Lofly both in height (6ft 7ins) and intellect (Princeton Harvard and London School of Economics), 51-year-old Mr. Volcker has long been respected at home and abroad for sound pragmatic judgment and independence of thought. He has been president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York since 1973 and has an unusual depth of experience of domestic and international banking and monetary affairs drawn from service in both the U.S. Treasury and private banking.

U.S. money markets and the foreign exchanges have been tense and jittery since President Carter decided last Thursday to replace Mr. Michael Blumenthal as Treasury Secretary with Mr. William Miller, who has been chairman of the Fed since March last year. There were many who thought then that Mr. Volcker, not Mr. Miller, should have been appointed to replace Dr. Arthur Burns, but during his brief tenure Mr. Miller generally won approval for the way in which he used his office to push the Administration towards a firmer anti-inflationary stance and vigorous defence of the dollar.

With Mr. Carter apparently seeking "team players" to replace the four departing members of his Cabinet, and with the "Georgia mafia" apparently consolidating its position in the White House, there was a genuine fear that the Administration would select a Fed chairman on the basis of political compatibility and perhaps even pliability.

Ironically, although "team



Paul A. Volcker

Glyn Gwin

player" was one judgment offered of Mr. Volcker yesterday by a leading Wall Street economist. It was not tinged with any fear that he would compromise the Fed's always fragile independence by lining up the Central Bank behind Administration economic policies which he might believe misguided. Rather Mr. Volcker's extensive background in Government creates confidence in his ability to make the most of the chairman's role in policy discussions with the Executive and in the disagreements which are almost inevitable.

"I can think of few others more intimately acquainted with the personalities and challenges associated with this position," said Mr. David Rockefeller, chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank and reportedly one of the candidates for the Fed job.

As Under-Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs between 1969 and 1974, Mr. Volcker established a network of contacts and friendships in the world's leading central

banks which could prove invaluable in dealings involving both the dollar.

He worked under three Treasury Secretaries and played a central role in framing U.S. international financial policies during the transition from Ford to Jimmy Carter. Throughout this period he was the principal U.S. negotiator with overseas governments.

It fell to Mr. Volcker to rebuild confidence in the U.S. as a partner in international monetary affairs following the abrasive style of President Nixon and Mr. John Connally, his Treasury Secretary, following their abrupt suspension of dollar convertibility in August, 1971.

Early attention both at home and abroad will be focused on the Fed's handling of monetary policy, and in this context some Wall Street economists credit President Carter with courage in selecting Mr. Volcker. Some see him as a pragmatic monetarist, others merely as a pragmatist, who understands the monetarist. But the records of

the Federal Reserve Board's open market committee show that at least three times this year, Mr. Volcker has voted against Mr. Miller, the chairman, and in favour of a tighter credit policy.

He has clearly been disturbed by the lack of progress in reducing U.S. inflation, although there is no indication that he has differed from Mr. Miller over the aim of trying to reduce inflation without deepening the recession which has begun. But Mr. William Griggs, senior economist with Schroder Bank and Trust Company, said yesterday he believes short-term interest rates would rise a little higher than they might have if there had been no change at the top of the Fed.

He and others think that Governors Henry Walling and Philip Caldwell will give Mr. Volcker full support in adopting a firmer monetary policy and that the two new governors recently appointed, Ennet Rice and Frederick Schulz, will probably follow the chairman's lead.

Commenting on Mr. Volcker's appointment yesterday Dr. Henry Kaufman, senior economist at Salomon Brothers, and a frequent critic of Mr. Miller, said yesterday that the President had "put an end to the time being to the risk of politicising monetary policy."

Dr. Kaufman said he had been very concerned about the implications of moving a Federal Reserve chairman across to the Treasury from where he could possibly exert undue influence over the central bank.

"The President has appointed someone with great strength in the international monetary area and it is to Mr. Carter's credit that he is willing to appoint someone who has taken a contrary view to the chairman."

Mr. Miller, for his part, thought Mr. Volcker "an excellent choice." The appointment, he added, "guarantees continuity in the conduct of the nation's monetary policy and provides recognised leadership that is required if we are to assure a sound dollar internationally, areas of utmost importance if we are to achieve our goals and win the fight against inflation."



James Schlesinger, the Energy Secretary, (left) with Charles Duncan, his successor (right)

## Energy plan held up in Congress

By David Buchan in Washington

PRESIDENT CARTER has had to accept that Congress will not act on his energy measures, including the windfall oil profits tax designed to finance his \$142bn energy programme for the 1980s, until early September, when it returns from its summer recess.

This Congressional check on Mr. Carter's new energy policy emerged from a meeting the President held on Tuesday with members of the Senate Finance Committee, whose chairman, Senator Russell Long, promised Mr. Carter a windfall tax Bill by October 1 that "he would be proud to sign."

The passage of some form of windfall tax Bill is rated a near certainty, and its chances have been increased by this week's announcement of very sharp second quarter profit increases for major oil companies. Since the tax would probably take effect next January, its approval by Congress, where it has already passed the House of Repre-

sentatives) in early autumn does not greatly concern Administration officials. For political reasons, Mr. Carter had wanted speedier action. This has proved largely impossible, in part because Congress's attention has been distracted by the tasks of examining the new Presidential energy proposals made in mid-July, and of confirming new appointments as a result of last week's Cabinet reshuffle. For instance, the Senate Finance Committee is due to set aside consideration of the windfall profits tax to start confirmation hearings on Friday on the appointment of Mr. William Miller, the Federal Reserve Board chairman, as the new Treasury Secretary.

Congressional leaders said action on Mr. Carter's major proposal to spend \$88bn to develop synthetic oil and gas over the next 10 years was most unlikely before the legislative recesses on August 3.

One energy Bill likely to reach the President's desk before then is the one which would give him authority to impose petrol rationing. The House, whose mood has changed sharply since it rejected a similar bill in May, is due to vote on it this week. Ironically, Congress will be taking action just as immediate petrol shortages in most parts of the country appear to have eased.

President Carter urged

Senate Finance Committee members not to weaken the windfall tax proposal, designed to cream off some of the extra profits the oil companies will make from decoupling of domestic oil prices and OPEC price increases abroad.

But he was given few assurances by the committee, which is expected to exempt new oil discoveries and smaller, independent producers. These exemptions, the Administration estimates would reduce proceeds from the tax by \$55bn over 10 years.

The committee might also write into the Bill a "plough-back" provision, which would exempt profits reinvested into new production and exploration.

## Nicaragua seeks emergency financial aid

BY WILLIAM CHISLETT

NICARAGUA IS planning to renegotiate its foreign debt and is seeking emergency financial help from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the International Development Association, the soft-loan window of the World Bank.

This was stated in an interview by Dr. Arturo Cruz, the newly appointed President of Nicaragua's Central Bank, himself formerly a senior official of the IDB.

Dr. Cruz put the foreign debt at about \$1.3bn, of which \$1bn was public sector debt. Of the total debt some \$800m is to private banks and will have to be renegotiated, he said. The first priority for any new loans would be transport, housing, health and education.

The bank president estimated

that \$250m and 100m cordobas had left the country as a result of capital flight over the past two years. Though dollars were

changing hands at up to 25 cordobas in the last days of the Somoza regime the official rate is still 10 to the dollar. "We will

do our best not to devalue."

The undisbursed balance of the \$67m loan granted in May to Nicaragua has been cancelled as the result of the change of Government there. It is estimated that the GNP could be reduced by as much as 18 per cent this year, the second year production will have fallen.

"The most challenging task we face now is to open the financial system and to ensure the public that their deposits are guaranteed," Dr. Cruz said.

Nicaragua could count on \$25m in unconditional loans from the IMF but hopes that as a result of the war the IDA will make loans which in the past it refused. With a per capita annual income of \$70, Nicaragua has been disqualified from IDA loans.

## Plan for Falklands future

BY ROBERT LINDLEY IN BUENOS AIRES

A "HONG KONG" solution for the future of the Falkland Islands is being talked about as the visit by Mr. Nicholas Ridley, junior Minister at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, comes to an end.

Under such a scheme sovereignty over the islands would be transferred to Argentina which would then lease them back to Britain for say, 99 years. The British way of life of the islanders would be

respected and Argentinian co-operation on the economic development of the islands could yield dividends.

Mr. Ridley is reported to be interested in such a solution, without which some observers see the future of the islands as bleak. However Falklanders are distrustful of assurances about their future from Whitehall, now that Argentina has again stepped up its campaign to acquire the islands.

costs of its major exports go up too quickly. The threat of a serious economic reversal in the United States made it more important than ever that Canada hang on to the markets it already has in that country, he said. "I am appealing to the good instincts not just of labour, but of businessmen as well," said Mr. Wilson. "We have to be able to compete in the world or we will lose business and lose jobs."

## Crosbie predicts \$7bn Canadian deficit

BY VICTOR MCKIE IN OTTAWA

MR. JOHN CROSBIE, Canada's Finance Minister, yesterday predicted that Canada would have a record \$7bn (£2.77bn) current account deficit this year, up from \$3.5bn in 1978. The minister said that he will issue a review of the economy shortly.

In his first major statement since the Conservative Government took power, he said that the deficit would have

economic recovery. "It will take two or three years to become masters of our own destiny—if people are prepared to work hard, conserve more, consume less and give more room to the private sector to expand," he said.

Mr. Crosbie said that the deficit was a major reason for the fall in the value of the dollar and the Canadian Government had had no choice this week but to raise interest rates

to avoid a further decline. "Our hands are bound by the mismanagement of the past," he said.

Mr. Sinclair Stevens, President of the Treasury Board, said that the Government is planning measures to reduce the deficit in the autumn budget.

Mr. Michael Wilson, the Trade Minister, said that Canada could find itself in an economic mess similar to the 1974-75 period of galloping inflation and severe unemployment, if the

costs of its major exports go up too quickly.

The threat of a serious economic reversal in the United States made it more important than ever that Canada hang on to the markets it already has in that country, he said. "I am appealing to the good instincts not just of labour, but of businessmen as well," said Mr. Wilson. "We have to be able to compete in the world or we will lose business and lose jobs."

## WORLD TRADE NEWS

## Citroen in E. German truck plant talks

By Terry Dodsworth in Paris

TALKS HAVE begun in East Germany on a deal which could lead to a further consolidation of the French motor industry's interests in the Comcon countries, one of its main areas of overseas growth in the last few years.

The discussions, now at an early stage, relate to East Germany's plans to develop and modernise its commercial vehicle industry. Contacts are believed to have been made with several West European vehicle companies, including Volvo of Sweden and Citroen.

Citroen has become involved in the talks mainly because of the links it has formed in East Germany recently through its contract to build a factory making parts for front-wheel drive cars. The French company declined yesterday to reveal details of the type of vehicles in which the East Germans are interested.

## Slight advance in Dutch car sales volume

By Charles Batchelor in Amsterdam

DUTCH CAR sales composed almost exclusively of imports stagnated in the first six months of 1979. Sales totalled 355,901 in the period January to June, recording a rise of only 0.5 per cent on the 353,989 sold in the same 1978 months, according to Motor Industry Association figures.

In a forecast made at the start of the year, the Association said sales in the whole of 1979 were estimated to increase by 2.6 per cent over 1978 to about 688,000-690,000.

The acquisition of Chrysler's European operations by Peugeot-Citroen pushed the French concern into the top position in the importers' league. Sales of Citroen, Peugeot and the European Chrysler/Simca models totalled 59,196 although this was lower than the 55,964 in 1978.

General Motors was second at 58,903 cars sold in the first six months compared with 53,740 last year. Ford sold 40,112 cars, 1,551 less than in the first half of 1978, while Volkswagen/Audi increased sales by 1,594 to 30,030. BL sales fell to 9,894 from 13,002. Volvo whose subsidiary is the only Dutch car manufacturer, sold 15,783 cars in The Netherlands compared with 12,432.

## Turbine pact with Hungary

THOMASSEN Holland, a subsidiary of the Rijnsche-Verolme shipbuilding group, has reached a wide-ranging technical and commercial co-operation agreement with Chemokomplex, the Hungarian state purchasing office, and Ganz Mavac, the engineering group, which has acquired the right to manufacture Thomassen high-speed suction compressors under licence, writes our Amsterdam correspondent.

Thomassen will give technical and commercial support for the development and sale by Ganz Mavac of a gas turbine suitable for use as a power unit for the compressor. The compressors will be used in the development of Hungary's gas fields.

As the first stage of the agreement Thomassen will deliver and install seven 600 hp compressors worth a total of Fl 4.8m (£1.1m) for use in gas collection stations on the Kiskunhalas gas field. This contract has resulted from the opening by Thomassen of a sales office in Vienna.

## GATT UNDER PRESSURE

## EEC welcomes U.S. Trade Bill

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES, COMMON MARKET CORRESPONDENT, IN BRUSSELS

CONGRESSIONAL approval of President Carter's Trade Bill has been welcomed with a sense of relief in Brussels, where EEC officials have felt for some weeks that they were engaged in a race against time to bring the recent Tokyo Round negotiations under the umbrella of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to a satisfactory conclusion.

It had been feared here that if the Bill failed to clear Congress by the end of the summer, there was a danger it would be irretrievably lost amid a mounting wave of protectionist pressures unleashed by the deepening American recession. Officials in Brussels remain worried that the coming months will see new calls for trade restrictions on both sides of the Atlantic, but they believe that the Tokyo Round agreement will at least provide an international framework which will help to contain the most severe protectionist tendencies.

The EEC has been awaiting action by the Congress before setting its own seal of approval on the GATT agreement. The European Commission now plans to propose to the EEC

## UK rail contracts in Hong Kong backed by £48m loan

BY ANTHONY ROWLEY IN HONG KONG

A FURTHER funding of \$11m (£48m) for Hong Kong's Mass Transit Railway Corporation was announced yesterday. The funds have been arranged by Lazard Brothers and are backed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

A \$16m buyer credit will cover power supply equipment to be provided by GEC-Elctra and a \$80m buyer credit will apply to rail cars to be

supplied by Metro-Cammell. Both of these new loans relate to the Tsuen Wan extension of the mass transit railway and the funds are to be made available by Lazard, Barclays Bank, International Grindlays Bank and Midland Bank.

This brings the total funds arranged by Lazard for the Mass Transit Railway Corporation to the equivalent of \$162m. Lazard was selected by

MTRC as the preferred bank for contracts awarded to the United Kingdom for the Tsuen Wan extension.

This latest finance is to be provided in U.S. dollars, while two earlier loans, for rail cars provided by Metro-Cammell and for signalling and automatic train control apparatus from Westinghouse Brake and Signal, were expressed in Hong Kong dollars, shielding the buyer from any exchange rate fluctuation.

Lazard pioneered the arrangements for such ECGD-backed loans denominated in the local currency and this played a significant part in the securing of these two earlier contracts.

Lorrie Barling adds: For Metro-Cammell the mass transit system has provided a valuable source of orders with an initial contract in 1976 for 140 cars and an exercised option for a further 70. Followed by an order for a further 150 cars, placed in February this year. A second option for 70 cars for the Tsuen Wan Extension is expected to be taken up.

It is also likely that the Island Line extension to the project is given the go ahead, a further order will be placed with Metro-Cammell.

## Finance for aircraft deal

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £20.4m loan which Lazard Bank has made available to the Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade.

The loan will help finance a contract awarded to British Aerospace earlier this year by the Romanian State Enterprise for Foreign Trade, for the supply of three BAC One-Eleven aircraft and spares.

This contract for the delivery of three complete aircraft is one of a series of contracts between British Aerospace and Romania which are part of a collaborative venture under which a further

22 aircraft will be built in Romania. A ECGD's annual report on the overseas investment insurance scheme shows current total investment insured of £80m.

In the last financial year 78 applications for insurance were received for new investment overseas worth £72m. 37 offers of insurance were made for projects worth £20m and 30 insurance agreements were signed worth nearly £17m. Applications were outstanding for £98m of investment.

Some claims payments were expected to be made this year for investments in Iran, Nigeria and Zaïre. No estimate of the amount could yet be made.

## Metal Box to set up French link

BY JOHN LLOYD

METAL BOX, the UK's largest can manufacturer, is to link itself closely with Carnaud, which occupies a similar position in France, in a bid to increase the European strength of both companies.

Metal Box will establish a holding company, Metal Box Europe, to administer its subsidiaries in Greece and Italy—Hellas Can and Superbox—and its associate company, Ormis

Emballages, in Portugal. The assets will be worth £10m, and the new company will have sales of around £60m a year.

Carnaud, for its part, will establish Carnaud Emballage to hold its metal packaging interests, including factories in France, and its interests in Envasas Carnaud in Spain, Eurocan in Belgium and La Ligure Emilliana in Italy. Carnaud Emballage will have

assets worth £35m, with sales of around £280m.

Metal Box will take a 20 per cent interest in Carnaud Emballage, and Carnaud Emb. will take a 40 per cent interest in Metal Box Europe.

The companies both dominate their domestic markets. Metal Box taking an estimated 65 per cent to 70 per cent in the UK while Carnaud takes around 55 per cent of the French market.

## Fall in orders hits Swiss construction companies

BY JOHN WICKS IN ZURICH

THE SWISS construction industry will have to make great efforts to defend its position on foreign markets and master difficulties arising in connection with the execution of large-scale contracts.

This is stated by SBI Gruppe der Schweizerischen Bauindustrie, a body whose corporate members account for between 80 and 90 per cent of Swiss building exports.

While foreign turnover of SBI companies continued to rise in 1978, reaching a level of SwFr 554m (£147m), foreign business is said to have flattened out in recent years. Thus, export work on hand reported by companies belonging to the Association fell from

SwFr 4,070m at the start of 1978 to SwFr 1,030m at the beginning of this year. Export business has, however, risen from 8 per cent to 33 per cent of SBI members' total turnover between 1973 and 1978, foreign markets doing much to offset the recession of the domestic building sector.

As of the start of this year, as much as 35 per cent of all SBI companies' export orders on hand were placed in the Middle East and North Africa and a further 28 per cent elsewhere in Africa. North America accounted for 19 per cent of the work in hand, other European countries only 8 per cent and Latin America and the Far East a combined 8 per cent.

## Chocolate exports decline

BY OUR ZURICH CORRESPONDENT

SALES of the Swiss chocolate industry have continued to fall this year, according to a report issued by Credit Suisse, though at a much slower rate than in 1978.

The further decline is attributed primarily to a 9 per cent drop in export tonnage since the start of the year. Swiss chocolate, says the bank, has become less competitive due to the high level of the Swiss franc exchange rate, although producers have been able to open up such new markets as Saudi Arabia for quality lines.

Figures just released by the Swiss Government show that in value terms, Switzerland's sales of chocolate on foreign markets totalled SwFr 49.3m (£13.7m) in

the first half of 1979. This was only 1.6 per cent lower than for the corresponding period of last year.

As far as the second half of this year is concerned, Credit Suisse predicts a further improvement in domestic chocolate sales.

The report points, however, to the growing share of competing import products on the Swiss market. The industry, which is concerned at a decrease in the national milk price at the start of July, believes that foreign markets for Swiss chocolate will be able to be retained "only with further price concessions or with new products with an increasing stress on quality."

## Philips to boost semiconductor research in U.S.

By Elaine Williams

PHILIPS, the Dutch electrical group, is setting up a semiconductor research laboratory in the U.S. to complement its activities in Eindhoven, Netherlands.

The laboratory is being sited in Sunnyvale at the heart of California's Silicon Valley—and will work closely with Signetics, the U.S. semiconductor company Philips acquired four years ago.

When fully established the laboratory will concentrate on the development of new micro-electronics devices according to its recently appointed director Mr. Euse Kool, who was previously at Eindhoven.

Mr. Kool and his deputy Mr. Jose Kostelke, previously a group director for components research at Philips Labs of North America, are about to recruit staff from within the worldwide Philips organisation and it seems likely that a large number will come from Eindhoven.

Research will be made available to all Philips subsidiaries, including Mullard and Pye in Britain, though Signetics, also based in Sunnyvale, is likely to benefit the most.

Signetics, whose growth has been dramatic during the last four years, is also embarking upon an ambitious expansion programme.

It has already started building two semiconductor factories near to its headquarters in Sunnyvale and is looking at the possibilities of setting up others in Mexico, Sacramento in California and Albuquerque in New Mexico.

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# Housing Corporation has £3.7m surplus

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

THE HOUSING Corporation, which last year recorded an accumulated deficit of £7.5m and has been heavily criticised over the handling of its finances, yesterday announced a £3.7m operating surplus for 1978-79.

The Corporation is responsible for funding, supervising and controlling the activities of 2,700 housing associations, which now build more than one-fifth of public sector homes in Britain.

Yesterday's annual report provided a sharp contrast to the report and accounts for 1977-78, which were only released in January, for year after doubts over their accuracy held up publication. They showed a 12-month deficit of £8m.

In May, the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee criticised the corporation's accounts, which it said were confusing and had been forced to include adjustments for "substantial errors". It also rebuked the corporation for

its system of vetting and monitoring the activities of the associations under its control and called for more detailed scrutiny of their affairs.

Yesterday, Sir Lou Sherman, chairman of the corporation, said that the organisation still confronted problems, notably in improving the systems for checking and improving housing schemes. In the past year, he said, the corporation had devoted a great deal of time and effort to ensuring that public money was "well spent and accounted for and that associations are increasingly open in telling and showing people what they do."

Sir Lou revealed that after talks with the Government, the form of the corporation's accounts has now been reviewed and the outcome is a new direction from the Secretary for the Environment concerning their future compilation.

Important changes include new accounting policies for the valuation of land and buildings,

which reduced the cumulative deficit at the start of the year by £1.5m to £6.3m. After other accounting adjustments and the year's operating surplus, the remaining deficit at March 31, 1979, was down to £3.2m.

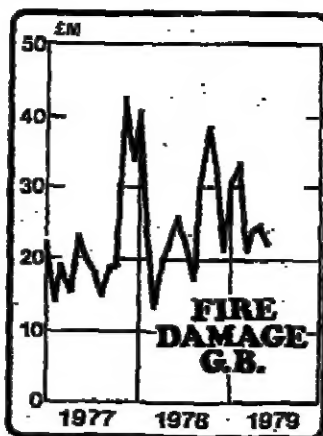
The corporation's administration costs showed a \$900,000 deficit during the year, although it was pointed out that if the higher housing association levy, introduced in February, had run for a full financial year then a surplus would have been recorded.

The corporation's report shows that by March this year, the organisation had made loans to housing associations totalling just over £1bn, of which £806m related to schemes under development and leaving £217m on completed schemes. Actual lending to associations in 1978-1979 was £407m.

Total loan approvals in England during the year reached 32,455 against 34,079 in the previous 12 months, although completions amounted to 23,915 compared to 20,880 in the year before.

There were an additional 5,945 loan approvals in Scotland, together with 1,117 completions, while approvals reached 1,839 in Wales, where another 1,037 housing association homes were finished.

## Fire costs 'fall £2m'



ESTIMATED fire damage costs fell by more than £2m to £23.3m last month, according to figures released yesterday by the British Insurance Association, in spite of one big fire costing more than £3m. This occurred at the RAF's historic centre at Bentley Priory, Stanmore, Middlesex, wartime headquarters of Fighter Command.

The figure for June was more than £31m lower than for the corresponding month last year. But fire damage costs in the first half of 1979 at £156.3m, were still 8.5 per cent higher than the costs for the first half of 1978.

There were nine fires last month where damage exceeded £250,000 but only one where the damage was more than £1m. There were 84 fires where the damage cost more than £35,000.

## Bid to compete with Belfast shuttle service rejected

BY MICHAEL DONNE, AEROSPACE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS has been sharply criticised for the second time this year by the Civil Aviation Authority for the poor quality of its performance on UK domestic routes.

In rejecting a bid by British Midland Airways, an independent airline, to fly between Heathrow and Belfast in competition with the state-owned airline, the authority said it found "shortcomings" in the British Airways Belfast Shuttle operation.

These included persistent

lack of punctuality. British Airways has given the authority "specific assurances" that this will be improved—to the extent that at least 90 per cent of all departures on the Heathrow-Belfast shuttle will be within 15 minutes of the advertised time, and that the average delay will not in future be more than 5 to 6 minutes.

"The authority expects these times to be quickly achieved and sustained," it said yesterday.

It also warned the airline that if such an improvement did not take place, the authority "would have to adopt a receptive attitude towards any application from another operator seeking to replace the airline's service."

In March, the authority rejected applications by the airline for fares rises on some domestic routes, pointing to poor efficiency and performance.

But in spite of its criticisms, the authority still did not feel justified in permitting a second airline on to the Heathrow-Belfast route.

## New move to check for credit

By David Churchill

Consumer Affairs Correspondent DEBENHAMS IS planning to become the first major UK retailer to adopt a new computer-based points scoring system for assessing customers' credit worthiness.

The system is due to be introduced later in the year and Debenhams is testing it at the moment. It is aimed at cutting bad credit debts by up to 30 per cent. Debenhams, which has about 70 stores throughout the UK, say that it will be able to grant more credit and be more flexible in giving it.

"We will be able to take into account local circumstances for each store, such as the environment, life-styles and so on," said Mr. W. Cox, director and general manager of Debenhams Finance. "We will be able to assess people's ability to maintain a credit account on a much more accurate and individual basis than in the past."

The new credit system has been developed by the Credit Data company and a U.S. company, Credit Management Associates. The system is based on a combination of risk analysis techniques and actuarial assessments. It involves analysing Debenhams' present credit arrangements to find the 200 or so different factors affecting payment.

At least two other major retailing groups are understood to be evaluating the credit point scoring system.

## Car ownership costs increase by 22.5%

BY ISA WOOD

THE COST of owning and running a new car has risen to 35.27p a mile this year, a 22.5 per cent increase on last year, according to a study published yesterday.

Hertz Car Leasing bases its study on a four-door saloon with standard equipment and assumes that it is kept for three years and driven 10,000 miles each year.

Mr. Richard Weishaar, general manager, said: "We are forecasting the cost of petrol, oil and lubrication to be 5.19p a mile—a 38 per cent increase over the 1978 figure of 3.76p."

"Maintenance costs have risen at a less well publicised rate than petrol, but this year's 65 per cent increase from 1.39p to 2.30p is greater than the total increase in maintenance between 1974 and 1978."

Mr. Weishaar said that there have been several annual increases in the price of parts as well as substantial increases in labour rates.

Hertz emphasised that the figures are averages. Individual car expenses do vary according to the type of car, miles driven and driving habits. Hertz calculates depreciation on a constant-price basis, because of the inflation rate.

Expenses such as garaging, membership of a recovery service and tolls, have been excluded in the study, but Hertz said that these costs might add as much as 10p a mile, especially in a big city.

When the cost-per-mile estimate was compared with a similar study by Hertz in the U.S., the average operating costs of a typical family car in the U.S. was 13.71p a mile.

## 'Too many accidents with woodworking machines'

BY JAMES McDONALD

WOODWORKING MACHINES are among the most dangerous in industry and there are still too many serious accidents, says a report published yesterday by the Health and Safety Executive.

The report, for 1977, deals with furniture and woodworking. It says that every year between 2,000 and 3,000 accidents are reported, many causing serious maiming at basic hand-fed machines such as circular saws, overhead planers and vertical spindle moulders.

The furniture and woodworking industry has an estimated workforce of about 200,000 working mainly in small and medium-sized companies. The variety of processes, ranging from sawmilling to mass production of shopfitting components, is matched by the many different machines employed. All of them require some safeguard against such hazards as cutting blades, dust and noise.

The report by the Factory Inspectorate's National Industry Group (NIG) for Furniture and Woodworking outlines some of the ways in which the Inspectorate is attempting to reduce

accidents in the industry. It gives examples of enforcement action but emphasises the need for co-operation between management, trade unions, workers and machine manufacturers and importers.

Designers, the report states, have a particular duty under Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work Act to incorporate precautions at the design stage.

Three principal areas needing special attention, says the report, were: guarding of machinery; hazards from wood dust; and suppression of noise. Dermatitis, respiratory irritation and a rare form of nasal cancer are among the occupational health hazards of handling certain species of wood, says the report.

Much wider investigation "re to be carried out on a country-wide basis to see if the hazards and health is concerned by being met and to enable the NIG to identify machines and operations requiring priority in the fitting of efficient extraction systems."

Furniture and Woodworking: Health and Safety 1977, SO, £1.

## Alderney asks board of power company to quit

A "FUNDAMENTAL difference" of view between the States of Alderney and Alderney Electricity over proposed changes of trading policy has led Mr. J. Kay-Monat, president of the island's States, to call for the resignation of the company's board en bloc.

Earlier in the year, the board asked the States if, as majority shareholders with 71 per cent of the ordinary share capital, they would be willing to consider

1—an increase in the company's equity;  
2—act as guarantor for long-term loans to the company; or  
3—provide a long-term loan to the company to meet required capital investment.

Plans which the board had been considering included the importing of petrol in bulk, expanding their contractual work, including the maintenance of oil-fired boilers, introducing automation at the power station, and building new offices and stores.

Replying to the company's plans in a letter, Mr. John Winkworth, chairman of the island's finance committee, said it was essential that formal consultations took place between the States and the company before irrevocable decisions were made on major changes of trading policy.

"As you will appreciate, should any such venture fail financially, the

States would eventually be forced to bail the company, as an essential service, out of any financial troubles.

"Further, in our capacity of responsibility for the island economy as a whole, we could not permit a venture by a very largely States-owned company, to impinge on the economy to the detriment of other persons or firms without serious consideration.

"In this particular example, there appear to be factors affecting the shipping company, the shipping rates and the States' equalisation fund. Further, of course, the island motor traders are affected as well as the convenience of the public, were there to be only one retail outlet."

In June, after further correspondence between the company and the States, the president wrote to Mr. Charles Britton, chairman of Alderney Electricity, stating that "it is obvious that there is a fundamental difference in view between the States, as major shareholders, and the board."

In an introductory statement to shareholders, who have been invited to attend an extraordinary general meeting of the company on Friday, Mr. Britton says that "the best interest of all concerned can best be served by the States acquiring the concession from the company and the company being liquidated."



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Now is a good time to come to Lloyds Bank and talk business.

And it's not just talk we're offering.

It's a chance to get the money you need to do business.

Because we want to encourage growth and enterprise which will make money for you as well as us. We have three new things to offer which should be particularly interesting to small and medium-sized companies—and to people who want to start a business for the first time.

### Lloyds Bank Finance Series

Free handbooks about starting, developing and running a business, full of advice, ideas and information. And we're prepared to back up our advice with two new loan schemes designed specially for small and medium-sized businesses. Let's once and for all get rid of the myth that 'banks will lend money only when you don't need it'.

### Enterprise Loans

This loan scheme is designed to help you exactly when you need it.

When you want to invest in new plant, equipment or premises. When you're about to break into new markets. Or expand your fleet of vehicles. Or diversify your range of products.

We've structured the Enterprise Loan Scheme in a way that helps you through an expansion period. It covers loans in the range £25,000 to £250,000 or more with interest linked to base rate.

Repayments would be spread over periods of up to 10 years. We tailor the period to fit in with your expansion programme, which is especially helpful if you're investing in new production capacity that may not begin to pay its way immediately.

As an added feature, if you put a proposition to us we may offer, in selected cases and at our cost, the advice of our Business Advisory Service to assist in the arrangement of the loan.

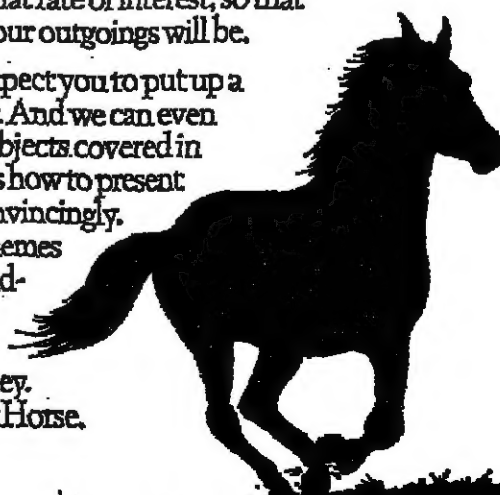
### Asset Loans

This scheme is ideal for someone starting up who needs money for premises, machinery or vehicles. Loans can be provided in excess of £5,000 and up to £25,000 and may cover 100% of the cost. Repayments can be spread over 5 years, on a fixed monthly basis at a flat rate of interest, so that you know in advance exactly what your outgoings will be.

Naturally, for both schemes we expect you to put up a sound case for borrowing the money. And we can even help with that. Because one of the subjects covered in the Lloyds Bank Finance handbooks is how to present financial propositions clearly and convincingly.

To find out more about our loan schemes and to get your free copies of the handbooks, just contact any Lloyds Bank manager.

Advice, encouragement and money. They're all at the sign of the Black Horse.



More help for business. At the sign of the Black Horse.

LLOYDS BANK



## UK NEWS

# Foundry industry action plan agreed

BY ROY HODSON

FOUNDRY OWNERS and union leaders agreed a programme to stem the decline in the ferrous foundry industry yesterday at a meeting of the National Economic Development Office economic development committee for foundries.

More than 40 foundries went out of business in Britain last year, according to the annual report of the Council of Ironfoundry Associations.

Mr. Tom Kilpatrick, chairman of the foundries' development committee, predicted in a discussion paper yesterday that another 200 of the 680 remaining British foundries might collapse by the mid-1980s.

The action programme calls for a study of the extent of penetration into the British market of foreign castings; a joint drive to improve productivity; exploration of the possibilities of increasing exports (although it was pointed out that the relatively low value and high freight costs of cast-iron products make them difficult to export while the pound is strong), and for efforts

to improve foundry technology. The scheme will disappoint many foundry companies because it does not include a proposition to the Government that a new aid scheme should be introduced to bring about a controlled run-down of British iron-founding capacity.

The ferrous foundry aid schemes introduced by Labour are closed, but they have led to increased capacity in the industry by backing private investment with Government money.

The industry widely acknowledges that what is needed is a scheme like the textiles reorganisation schemes, which would encourage some foundries to go out of business for good.

The union members of the development committee were prepared to oppose any scheme to contract the industry.

The 1978 output of iron castings in Britain was 2.69m tonnes: a decline of 3.8 per cent on the previous year and the lowest recorded tonnage since 1948.

The Council of Ironfoundry Associations report states that demand in Britain for automobile iron castings fell by nearly 7 per cent last year to the lowest level since 1968. Meanwhile, output of tractor castings fell by nearly 22 per cent to 187,000 tonnes, the lowest level for 20 years.

Demand in Britain for cast-iron ingot moulds fell, again, below 800,000 tonnes, and the associations do not expect that trend to be reversed because of the changing structure of the steel industry.

Demand for castings by the engineering industries in 1978 remained flat throughout the year.

The iron foundries and the steel foundries are likely to make representations to the European Commission for help on a European scale. One suggestion is that Brussels should work out a rescue and reconstruction plan for the European foundries similar to the Davignon steel plan.

## Home loans top 1m in 1978

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

THE NUMBER of building society advances topped a million for the first time in 1978, says the annual report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

Last year the societies made an estimated 1.18m loans, of which 820,000 were new mortgages. The balance were additional advances on existing loans.

The societies' record performance came in spite of an 18 per cent reduction in net intake from investors, but by allowing their liquidity ratio to fall from 21.6 per cent at the end of 1977 to 18.8 per cent at the end of 1978, lending rose to over £8.8bn against £8.74bn in the previous year.

This year the societies expect to lend about £8bn, with the number of actual loans falling to about 680,000. Liquidity is running at an average 17½ per cent.

The Registrar states that combined assets of the building society movement rose to £39.1bn by the end of 1978, though the growth rate of 15.3 per cent compared with nearly 22 per cent in the previous year, and was the lowest since 1974.

He adds that 24 societies were removed from his register by merger in 1978, more than in either of the two preceding years. At the end of 1978 there were 316 societies in Britain left on the register, though in the first five months of this year seven more societies have been removed.

## Building outlook no brighter

By Andrew Taylor

THE OUTLOOK for UK construction continues to look discouraging, according to industry and Government indicators published yesterday.

Department of Environment figures show that orders for new construction in the three months to the end of May—although 2 per cent higher than in the previous three months—are still 3 per cent down on the same period last year.

Brick deliveries in the second quarter, although showing a marked improvement on the first three months, are 7 per cent fewer than a year ago.

By cement deliveries in the second quarter were 3 per cent up on last year.

Mr. Basil Gwyn, chairman of the National Council of Building Materials Producers, commenting on the BMP's latest forecasts, said that the short-term outlook for construction output was discouraging.

"Over the period 1978-81 output is forecast to fall by almost 4 per cent," he said.

The latest quarterly trade forecast conducted by the Builders Merchants Federation at the end of June presents a somewhat brighter picture.

It concluded that builders' merchants were still expressing confidence about prospects over the next six to 12 months in spite of recent indications that the improvement in building material sales has been lagging.

The survey showed that members' expectations had remained virtually unchanged since the last survey, in spite of the drop in sales in May compared with a year ago.

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It suggested that travel operators should follow the example of Thomas Cook which, after a complaint about one of its brochures was upheld by the ASA, had drawn up and circulated a recommended policy for the writing of brochure descriptions.

The authority said that if companies came clean in their brochures about facilities on offer there would be fewer dissatisfied customers.

ASA, in its latest monthly report on complaints about advertising standards, said: "We are becoming increasingly concerned by the failure of operators to state the facts in their brochures when facilities they propose to offer are still under construction or not yet fully organised at the time of printing."

"It is too much to assume in this day and age that they will necessarily be complete by the time the holidaymaker arrives. It is about time tour operators came clean about this in their brochures."

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## Accounting companies in two big mergers

BY BARRY RILEY

TWO MAJOR developments in the world of accounting were announced yesterday. In the UK, Touche Ross is to absorb Mann Judd in a move which will make the combined company probably the fourth largest in Britain.

In an entirely separate development, a nine-nation grouping of accounting companies has been formed of which the British member is Thomson McIntosh.

Touche Ross and Mann Judd have agreed in principle to merge with effect from September 1st, or as soon as possible afterwards. The firm will practise under the name of Touche Ross.

The agreement follows an approach last February by Mr. Douglas Baker, managing partner of Touche Ross, to Mr. Kenneth Morgan, senior partner of Mann Judd. Detailed talks began in April.

The combined company will have 148 partners and will employ 2,400 people—roughly 1,400 from Touche Ross and

1,000 from Mann Judd. But 24 partners of Mann Judd will not join the enlarged company. Some will be retiring. Others will split off to form an independent Scottish practice.

Mr. Morgan said: "We recognised that we required increased representation overseas and were delighted that we were approached by Touche Ross and are pleased that a merger with them has been achieved." He also stressed the advantages for staff training.

For Touche Ross Mr. Baker said: "It gives us a very complete coverage of the UK. Mann Judd has a splendid practice in South Wales where Touche Ross were uncovered."

Mr. Baker will continue as managing partner and chief executive of Touche Ross. Mr. Morgan will become senior partner until his retirement in April, 1981, and will be joint chairman of the Board with Mr. Douglas Morphet.

The announcement of the new world-wide accounting company follows many months of negotiations. Its legal base will be in Zurich and its head office in Amsterdam.

Its first chairman will be Dr. Reinhard Goetsch (Germany), the president of the Archibald Mackay (U.S.) and the executive partner Mr. Jan Uitterlinden (Holland).

In addition to Thomson McIntosh, one of the largest British firms, the founding members are: Deutsche Treuhand of Germany; Fides Revisors of Switzerland; Fiduciaire de France; Hancock and Officer of Australia; C. Jespersen of Denmark; Klynveld Krassenborf of the Netherlands; Main Lafrantz/Hurdmann and Grapetown of the U.S.; Pelsier, Hamelberg, Van Til, of the Netherlands; and Thorne Riddell, of Canada.

Discussions with a view to enlarging the group are taking place with firms in various countries throughout the world.

A \$438,000 damages claim against Arthur Andersen and Co., chartered accountants, for alleged professional negligence was withdrawn in the High Court in London yesterday.

It was an abrupt ending to a 20-day hearing. Mr. Justice Griffiths was told that, after out-of-court discussions, Mr. Christopher Melville MacLaren, of West Kensington, London, would not continue with his claim.

It was also agreed that judgment should be given for Andersen on a claim against them by Media Electronic Holdings, of Westbury, Wiltshire, alleging negligence and breach of duty.

Andersen's counter claim against Media for £6,505 allegedly unpaid fees, was withdrawn.

No details were given of the terms upon which the case was disposed of and the judge made no order as to costs.

Mr. MacLaren had alleged that he relied on the advice of an Andersen manager before committing a £100,000 investment to Mercury Electronics, a company that designed and made outside broadcasting studios, later taken over by Media Electronic Holdings.

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## BL sets up computer subsidiary

Financial Times Reporter

BL is to set up a new subsidiary company to provide a comprehensive computer systems service internally, it announced yesterday.

The new subsidiary will also sell services outside the company.

By creating BY Systems as a separate unit, BL believes it will be better able to use and direct scarce technical skills in an area of rapidly changing and expanding technology.

The move is part of plans by Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL, to separate the company's units and give them new terms of reference. Last week BL announced the creation of BL Technology, also a wholly-owned subsidiary, which will upgrade the status of BL's advanced technology and engineering work.

Among services offered to customers by BL Systems will be computer systems development, data processing operations and communications network planning and management.

Mr. John Leighton, appointed managing director of BL Systems, was formerly director, Systems, for BL Cars.

He said yesterday: "The application of advanced computer and communications technology is of considerable importance to BL. By creating a commercially orientated company we believe we can maximise the effect of the wide range of experience in these fields that we have available. We also believe that we can exploit externally certain applications in which the work we have done is in advance of anything on the market."

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## Swan Hunter is top shipyard lossmaker

BY OUR SHIPPING CORRESPONDENT

SWAN HUNTER Shipbuilders, on the Tyne, was British Shipbuilders' heaviest loss maker last year, according to the corporation's annual report. Details of subsidiaries' performance are given this year for the first time, after criticism about lack of information in last year's annual report.

Swan Hunter turned in a pre-tax loss of £15.8m on a turnover of £107m, compared with an £11.4m loss last year. Yards in Scotland followed closely behind, with losses of £13.5m from Govan Shipbuilders and £12.5m from Scott

### RESULTS OF BRITISH SHIPBUILDERS (£000)

	1977	1978
Turnover	profit/ (loss)	profit/ (loss)
Allisa Shipbuilding	808	(1,004)
Appledore Shipbuilders	11,972	(311)
Austin & Pickersgill	41,115	(999)
Berkeley Clyde	2,439	(1,379)
Broad Marine	15,128	1,721
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders	46,894	2,362
George Clark & NEM	11,387	(1,471)
Falmouth Shiprepair	7,704	(3,138)
Gool Shipbuilding & Repairing	10,402	(1,435)
Govan Shipbuilders	33,933	(13,539)
Hall Russell	14,754	160
Howarth Leslie	5,401	(787)
John G. Kincaid	12,257	24
River Thames Shiprepairs	7,089	(5,243)
Robb Caledon Shipbuilders	12,439	(11,725)
Scott Lithgow	56,614	(12,473)
Scott Lithgow Drydocks	1,461	(918)
Smith's Dock	46,743	(6,032)
Sunderland Shipbuilding	95,117	3,442
Swan Hunter	106,942	(15,761)
Tyne Shiprepair	32,883	(8,373)
Vickers Offshore Projects	636	(13)
Vickers Shipbuilding	147,297	9,025
Vosper Shiprepair	7,810	(2,490)
Vosper Thornycroft	99,434	10,730
Yarrow Shipbuilders	52,582	3,099

Source: British Shipbuilders report and accounts 1978-79. SO £1.50.

## Call for greater accuracy in travel brochures

A CALL for greater accuracy in travel brochures, compiled by tour operators, is made today by the Advertising Standards Authority.

The authority said that if companies came clean in their brochures about facilities on offer there would be fewer dissatisfied customers.

ASA, in its latest monthly report on complaints about advertising standards, said: "We are becoming increasingly concerned by the failure of operators to state the facts in their brochures when facilities they propose to offer are still under construction or not yet fully organised at the time of printing."

"It is too much to assume in this day and age that they will necessarily be complete by the time the holidaymaker arrives. It is about time tour operators came clean about this in their brochures."

The authority said travel companies should make it clear which of their holiday and resort facilities were not available out of season.

The statement that "all facilities may not be available" or something similar did not provide adequate information. "It may cover the operator, but it does not inform the holidaymaker," said the authority.

It suggested that travel operators should follow the example of Thomas Cook which, after a complaint about one of its brochures was upheld by the ASA, had drawn up and circulated a recommended policy for the writing of brochure descriptions.

Unforeseen circumstances, said ASA, may mean changes in facilities after an advertisement has appeared. But this emphasised the need for the tour operator to keep his advertising agents and travel agents well informed.

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## Welsh agency hopeful despite cuts in aid

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

THE WELSH Development Agency believes the Government cuts and changes in regional aid will have little effect on its activities at least for the next 12 months.

Mr. Ian Gray, managing director, said yesterday: "Demand for what we can offer in our judgment will not reduce. We foresee that for the next 12 months we will continue to have a sustained and high demand for our factory premises and for our investment fundings. To look beyond that at this stage is extraordinarily difficult."

So far they had had no case of a company thinking again on investment following Government policy changes.

He said that they were cutting their budget by £3m for this year at the direction of the Government so that it would do least damage to their main role of regenerating the Welsh economy.

The details were with Mr. Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, and he refused to amplify them. But



# Further cash cuts will put jobs-aid schemes at risk

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND GARETH GRIFFITHS

THE MANPOWER Services Commission yesterday warned the Government that further cuts in its budget would mean that its employment-aid schemes or running them down to an irretrievable level.

The commission's expenditure was cut back in the Budget by £110m, or 14 per cent, and staff savings under the Civil Service 3 per cent cut have added a further reduction of £4m.

Further staff cuts of 10, 15 and 20 per cent are being considered. Union officials believe that the commission is the most likely target in the Employment Department for further cuts.

Commission officials working on the options believe that the most likely way to achieve a 10 per cent cut in the Training Services Division would reduce the number completing Training Opportunities Scheme courses from a target of 70,000 to 55,000. Cut above 10 per cent would have "severe repercussions" throughout the division.

Commission officials estimate that a 10 per cent cut in the Special Programmes Division could be achieved by abolishing the Special Temporary Employment Programme, which provides temporary jobs for people aged over 19.

A 15 per cent cut would involve reductions in the Youth Opportunities Scheme and a 20 per cent cut would lead to the places target falling from 110-120,000 to 80,000.

In its annual report, published yesterday, the commission said that output per head in the economy rose by 3 per cent last year, which was the best performance for five years.

**Productivity**

The increase in productivity for the year April 1, 1978, to March 31, 1979, covered by the report was higher at 3 per cent. Unemployment remained at a historically high level and recruitment remained depressed.

The job market in 1978 to 1979 was healthier than at any time since 1972-1973. There was a record number of job vacancies and unemployment was down for the first time in five years.

The MSC suggests the long term upward trend in productivity in the economy has been resumed and the serious fall in output per head in the 1973-75 period made up. But productivity in manufacturing only increased at half the rate of the economy as a whole and in the vehicle industry, productivity

fell. Employment rose by nearly 200,000 with an acceleration of the increase towards the end of 1978. The improvements were narrowly based on the service sector and among women. Jobs in manufacturing fell by 65,000, three-quarters of them held by men.

The decline in manufacturing employment was widespread with iron and steel showing a loss of 20,000 jobs, textiles 15,000, mechanical engineering and motor vehicle manufacturing about 10,000 jobs each.

Service employment went up by 250,000 jobs.

The report says the trends indicate a continuing need for special employment and training measures.

More than 2m people were either helped to find jobs, received training, work experience or temporary jobs under the MSC's auspices in 1978 to 1979. The commission says the figures reflect its success in raising employment, reducing unemployment and providing skilled manpower.

Provisional expenditure by the MSC during 1978 to 1979 was £209m with a further £134m spent on measures operated by the commission on behalf of the Employment Department.

# Tory effort to involve Patriotic Front

BY IVOR OWEN

BRITAIN IS still prepared to make a final attempt to associate the leaders of the Patriotic Front with constitutional proposals which will restore Rhodesia to legality and ensure the widest possible international recognition when it becomes an independent State.

This was made clear by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher in the Commons last night when she reaffirmed that the views expressed at next week's Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference in Zambia will be taken into account by the Government before reaching final decisions on the next stage of its Rhodesia policy.

With right-wing Tory MPs again highlighting their opposition to the renewal of sanctions against Rhodesia in November, Mr. James Callaghan, the Opposition leader, warned of the perils which Britain could face in the event of a unilateral decision to recognise the Government of Bishop Muzorewa.

Any settlement which did not take account of the Patriotic Front would almost certainly result in the fighting in Rhodesia continuing, with the likelihood of growing Russian and Cuban involvement.

This, in turn, could lead to British forces having to support the Muzorewa Government and the catastrophic situation of the United Kingdom being involved in a war it could not win, and facing all the troubles encountered by the United States in Vietnam.

The Prime Minister assured the House that, after the Zambia conference, the British Government would put forward firm proposals on the constitutional arrangements to achieve a proper basis for legal independence for Rhodesia.

In formulating these proposals, Ministers would be guided by the six principles which had been supported by successive British Governments. "We shall aim to make proposals comparable to those on which we granted independence to other former British territories in Africa."

Indicating the Government's willingness to make a further attempt to reach an accommodation with the Patriotic Front, she stressed that the proposals would be put "to all the parties to the conflict."

White insisting that the importance of the April election which led to Bishop Muzorewa being installed as Prime Minister could not be ignored, Mrs. Thatcher revealed that the Government had still to reach a conclusion on whether it had satisfied the fifth principle requiring that any settlement must be acceptable to the people of Rhodesia as a whole.

"We have not yet determined whether this is so," she said.

But the election could not possibly be written off as an event of no significance. "It is indeed an advance without parallel in this history of Rhodesia."

The Prime Minister welcomed the report on the test of Conservative peers, headed by Lord Boyd, a former Colonial Secretary. After observing the voting they had concluded that the election had been fairly conducted. She also quoted the view that the election had constituted "a kind of referendum on the constitution."

Condemning statements by Patriotic Front leaders advocating war rather than negotiation, she maintained that those who relied on force to achieve their aims must not be allowed to triumph over those who wished to advance their cause by democratic means.

Questioned about her comments in Australia about the difficulties which the Government could face in November if it tried to renew sanctions for a further year, the Prime Minister replied that the Government's top priority was to try to bring Rhodesia to independence with the widest possible international acceptance.

Amid Tory cheers, she stressed that if Rhodesia were to lead to legal independence sanctions would automatically fall.

Underlining the need to make steady progress, she said: "I am the first to say that I do not think that there is very much time left."

"If we don't make progress towards legal independence within a reasonable time this year, then I do not think there will be any better chance next year or the year after."

Mr. Callaghan claimed that the comments made by the

Prime Minister in Australia had led to the impression that Britain would take a unilateral decision not to renew sanctions, irrespective of the views of the rest of the Commonwealth.

He declared: "It would be folly if that impression were allowed to prevail."

Backed by Labour cheers, Mr. Callaghan promised the support of the Opposition if the Government recommended the continuance of sanctions for a further year.

In these circumstances, he believed that it would be possible for the Government, which he assumed would receive some support from Tory MPs, to get the necessary Order through.

Mr. Callaghan urged the Prime Minister to launch "quietly and privately" an initiative at the Zambia conference which would enable the Rhodesian problem to be solved under the umbrella of the Commonwealth. He again called for changes in the Rhodesia constitution to strengthen the position of the majority.

THE CONSERVATIVES used their first televised party political broadcast since the election last night to deliver a stark warning about the inevitable painful side effects of the changes for which the British electorate had voted in May.

The main purpose behind the broadcast seemed to be to remind the public that it had voted for a fundamental change in direction and to win support for the measures which the Government regarded as an integral part of that change—but which opinion polls suggest are less popular with voters than the package offered before the election.

The broadcast, prepared by Saatchi and Saatchi, began with a brief rundown of how the party had fulfilled the "Conservative promises."

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, then gave a progress report on the first two and a half months of Tory Government.

So far, he said, the party had made a solid start. But it could get rougher.

There was no painless way of putting Britain back in business as a country to be reckoned with. "It's like having a major operation—it's bound to hurt before it heals."

At the election, he said, the country had voted for change. "Well, change there will be. Your instructions will be carried out." He emphasised that the fundamental nature of the choice the country had made should not be underestimated.

Reflecting the opinion of the Cabinet that it will take several years to turn the tide, he warned that it would take time to create the "new free vigorous Britain" which the public had voted for.

"And, as we do what must be done, no doubt there'll be shock, horror and dismay from the fainthearted and those who have an interest in our national decline," he predicted.

## Murray warning on labour law plan

By Nick Garnett, Labour Staff

GOVERNMENT proposals on labour relations legislation might jeopardise the influence and assistance the TUC is able to exercise on trade unions to promote good industrial relations, Mr. Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said yesterday.

After studying the working papers published by the Government on their proposals, union leaders have taken the view that almost any form of industrial action might render trade unions vulnerable to court injunctions and damages claims.

The TUC's attitude to the proposals will be expressed at a meeting with Mr. James Prior, Employment Secretary. The unions' objections to changes in employment protection legislation on unfair dismissal and redundancy notification will also be aired.

A TUC document on the Government's working papers is to be circulated to unions. A shorter version of the document, including further information arising out of discussions with Ministers, is also to be produced and widely circulated.

## Yes to NatWest and Barclays pay offer

BY NICK GARNETT, LABOUR STAFF

A PAY offer by Barclays and National Westminster was accepted yesterday by the executive of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union. It had already been agreed by staff associations in the two banks.

The union told Midland, Lloyds and Williams and Glyn's, the three other English clearing banks, that it now expected them to "match the Barclays and National Westminster deals."

These two settlements, which are virtually identical, involve 15 per cent pay rises for grades 1 and 2, 10 per cent for grades 3 and 4, and 17 per cent for grades above this.

The package also involves two or three extra days holiday for grades 1 and 2, higher territorial allowances and a new London supplement. This part of the offer is common to all banks.

Midland and Williams and Glyn's had originally offered 15 per cent to all grades with Lloyds offering a further 1 per cent to supervisory and managerial staff.

Mr. Leif Mills, the banking union's general secretary said yesterday that unless the banks' proposals were accepted, there was a threat of industrial action.

This is in spite of a decision by negotiators for the banking union and the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs to accept mediation proposals at Midland which have since been bettered by other banks.

Mr. John Bealey, general secretary of the Lloyds staff association said he would now be seeking a better deal than that made at Barclays and National Westminster.

"The awkward way in which a settlement for the banks' 200,000 clerical and computer staff is being arranged has prompted management and union officials to make further attacks on the lack of a central negotiating structure for the industry," Mr. Bealey said yesterday that the banks had forfeited any right to have national machinery.

## ICI clerks plan one-day strike for 18% claim

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries' white-collar unions plan a one-day national strike on August 7 for their pay claim of 18 to 20 per cent.

A delegate meeting of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs representing 22,000 ICI staff decided yesterday on the one-day strike after a union ballot.

Mr. Roger Ward, ASTMS national officer for chemicals, said the strike would be supported by TASS, the white-collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

He expected a strong response from the membership. Several plants would be severely hit.

He was not optimistic at the way pay talks were going. The company had offered 8 per cent to 13 per cent. Union officials want at least 13 per cent for the lowest grade staff.

Talks are fixed for today about the position of clerical staff at ICI, and on Friday about that of scientific and administrative staff.

## Dockers stay out

A STRIKE by 250 Mersey dockers which has closed the coastal section, halting freight traffic for Dublin and Belfast, is to continue at least until tomorrow when it will be a fortnight old.

The men held a dockside meeting yesterday, rejected a revised offer worked out by the employers and the Transport and General Workers' Union, and voted to stay out and meet again tomorrow.

They seek between £2.50 and £3 a day for weekend work.

## Engineering offer not to be raised

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

THE MANAGEMENT board of the Engineering Employers' Federation decided yesterday to make no further pay offer on minimum time rates to the industry's unions. A national overtime ban is due to begin on Monday.

Officials of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service met the employers again yesterday, but apparently decided not to initiate

any further moves for the time being.

Employers seem determined to test the efficacy of industrial action, which also includes a number of one-day strikes from August 6.

They suspect that support for industrial action is patchy, although the mood of the workforce is more determined in the major industrial cities.

The employers' federation does not appear to be keen on any joint meeting with the unions that ACAS may have attempted to arrange.

Union negotiators have been instructed to seek a new national minimum craft rate of £80, against the present £60, with pro-rata rises for other rates and a reduction of one hour in the working week.

## Working days lost up 50%

BY PHILIP BASSETT, LABOUR STAFF

THE NUMBER of working days lost because of stoppages in the first half of this year was double the total for the same period last year.

According to Department of Employment figures yesterday last winter's strikes were the main cause.

The six-month total for the number of working days lost through strikes was 7,433m, compared to 3,359m in the same period last year. The total number of days lost for the whole of 1978 was 9,403m.

The number of workers involved in stoppages in the six-month periods rose from 497,700 in 2,359m, though the number of stoppages beginning in the periods fell from 1,232 to 1,025.

Though the six-month totals continue to reflect the large number of days lost in the first two months of the year in the health service, local authority, road haulage, rail and civil service disputes—January's total was the highest since February 1974—all but one of the four other monthly totals for days lost are markedly higher this year.

The number of working days lost last month rose from 488,000 in May to 588,000, with the number of workers involved also increasing, from 52,000 to 125,000.

The Department lists the industrial action in the Post Office by clerical, computer and management staff as one of the

main contributors to last month's figures. Other stoppages included action by Civil Service scientists and technologists, and by Port of Liverpool dockers.

In the first quarter of the year, the number of employees in employment, seasonally adjusted, fell by 33,000 to 22,298m. Male employment fell in the period by 27,000 to 13,058m and female employment by 6,000 to 9,241m.

● Employment legislation such as legal provisions on unfair dismissal, or maternity benefit has not had particularly pronounced or widespread effects on small businesses, according to a study in the Department of Employment Gazette.

About 27 per cent of the 301 companies surveyed said, however, that the unfair dismissal laws had made them take more care in recruiting staff.

## Diplomacy rule book is revised

By David Tenge, Diplomatic Correspondent

A HIGH-LEVEL Foreign Office study on altering the criteria for recognising regimes abroad is progressing with its findings, to be presented to Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary.

The study was commissioned after an incident after Britain's recognition of the new Ghana regime in June. News of recognition reached General Ouseghem Obaseki, the Nigerian head of state, just before the arrival in Lagos of Lord Hareich, the British envoy. He interpreted it as a snub, since it was well known that Ghana's former head of state, General Acheampong, who had just been executed by his successors, was his close friend.

The British line on recognition was laid down by Churchill in 1950 when, in reference to London's recognising Communist China, he said the act was "not to confer a compliment but to secure a convenience."

Emphasis on pragmatism in recognition has not prevented Britain from being involved in awkward public anguish at each violent change, as for instance recently in Iran, Grenada and Nicaragua.

The present aim is to follow the example of France and other countries, which recognise states rather than governments. Advocates of this argue that it would allow Britain to ignore violent government overthrow and to continue business as usual.

British officials investigating the matter have, however, identified two main obstacles to be overcome.

The first is that one would still not avoid the necessity for decision on whether and with whom to deal. The second is that there can be disadvantages in obscurity in that many existing contracts remain an unqualified stand on whether Britain does or does not recognise the authorities.

## Public spending review announcement in autumn

BY JOHN HUNT, PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

THE Government's review of public expenditure for 1980-81 is not yet complete and its decisions will not be announced until the autumn. Mr. John Biffen, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, told the Commons yesterday.

He firmly rejected a demand from Mr. Denis Healey, Shadow Chancellor, who pressed the Government to announce its intentions now to clear up what he called "a blizzard of Press leaks on a totally unprecedented scale."

Mr. Healey's private notice question came after widespread reports that the Cabinet had decided to reduce 1980-81 expenditure by between £3.5bn and £4bn from the levels envisaged in the Labour Government's expenditure White Paper.

The Shadow Chancellor protested that there had been unanimous Press reports that only six weeks after the Budget the Government was proposing to increase expenditure cuts for the next financial year by a further £1bn, representing a reduction of one third.

According to Mr. Healey, this was made necessary by Government policies which were causing higher inflation and unemployment and thus increasing the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

Yet, he said, the further expenditure cuts now being considered were bound to lead to still higher inflation, unemployment and bankruptcies and also to a higher PSBR.

He urged Mr. Biffen to accept the advice of an editorial in yesterday's Financial Times that welfare payments acted as a regulator in the economy and to cut them at a time like this was damaging to the economy as well as being very savage and unfair to those concerned.

He also wanted to know whether the Minister agreed that the PSBR should be higher when economic activity was lower as a result of Government action.

Mr. Healey asked if there was any truth in reports that the Department of the Environment was going to increase council house rents by £2 a week next April.

In such a situation, said Mr. Healey, it would be totally indefensible for the Government to refuse to consider reducing mortgage relief for the higher rate taxpayer.

The Chief Secretary replied that in no way could he be held responsible for the "blizzard of leaks." If Mr. Healey had been blinded by them, that was his misfortune.

He did not agree with the

premises of the alternative policies proposed by Mr. Healey and maintained that these issues had been resolved at the general election.

"Neither am I a puppet of the Financial Times merely searching every editorial to find out what to do next," Mr. Biffen declared.

The broad thrust of the Government's public spending policy was as stated by the Prime Minister, the previous day, when he said that the most important task was to reduce Government expenditure as a proportion of the total national income.

The objective of the Government's policy was stabilisation of expenditure in real terms. To describe this as a cut was the sort of myopia that was responsible for the present condition of the country.

Mr. Richard Wainwright, the Liberal economic spokesman, urged the Government to expose its expenditure policies to the cut and thrust of debate in the Commons so that all would be aware of it.

But again Mr. Biffen stressed that the House would have to wait the publication of the Government's expenditure White Paper in the autumn.

Strong backing for the curbs on expenditure came from Mr. Eider Griffiths (C. Bury St. Edmunds). Nevertheless, he reminded Mr. Biffen that business, local authorities and nationalised industries were all deeply concerned about the matter.

Therefore, the Government should do its utmost to reach finality in a very difficult task and announce its decisions as quickly as possible.

There was a strong attack from the Labour back benches with Mr. David Winkler (Walsall N) alleging that the "savage cuts" would cripple essential services and cause untold harm and suffering throughout the country.

"This Government has become a curse upon the land," he told the House.

## 'Painful' changes ahead

By Elmer Goodman, Lobby Staff

THE CONSERVATIVES used their first televised party political broadcast since the election last night to deliver a stark warning about the inevitable painful side effects of the changes for which the British electorate had voted in May.

The main purpose behind the broadcast seemed to be to remind the public that it had voted for a fundamental change in direction and to win support for the measures which the Government regarded as an integral part of that change—but which opinion polls suggest are less popular with voters than the package offered before the election.

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There was no painless way of putting Britain back in business as a country to be reckoned with. "It's like having a major operation—it's bound to hurt before it heals."

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"And, as we do what must be done, no doubt there'll be shock, horror and dismay from the fainthearted and those who have an interest in our national decline," he predicted.

## Local radio boost

BY ARTHUR SANDLES

COMMERCIAL LOCAL radio will be given its head and the BBC forced to trim its ambitions in the field, if the Government accepts the recommendations of a Home Office working party.

In answer to a written question yesterday, Mr. William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, revealed proposals by the working party for commercial stations under the Independent Broadcasting Authority's umbrella in a further 15 areas.

For the BBC, however, proposals consist more of "a rationalisation than an expansion," and suggests only one completely new station.

By the end of next year, the IBA will already have 27 stations on the air, or nearing transmission, while the BBC will probably have only 22.

Mr. Whitelaw said that he had decided to make the Working Party's report public before reaching decisions on new locations and to invite public comment. There would also be further talks with the IBA and the BBC.

The last increase in the number of local radio stations was sanctioned by the Labour Government last year.

Both the IBA and the BBC were told they could plan nine new stations each.

So far the IBA has advertised eight of its contracts, and will soon be seeking tenders for the ninth.

The BBC, however, hard-up for cash and eager for a substantial increase in the licence fee has expressed only the hope of opening two new stations in 1980. It cannot give a timetable for the other seven.

"In the circumstances, we think that it would be neither appropriate nor realistic to attempt to maintain parity in numbers," says the report.

Both authorities should be allowed to develop proposals as their individual circumstances allow.

The suggested new independent local radio stations are in Ayr, Barnsley, Bristol, Bury St. Edmunds, Canterbury/Dover, Guildford, Leeds, Leicester, Londonderry, Luton/Bedford, Newport, Preston/Blackpool, Swindon, Worcester/Hereford and Wrexham/Deeside.

## Access Bill introduced

A BILL seeking to extend public rights of access to information was given a formal first reading in the Commons yesterday by Mr. Michael Meacher (Lab Oldham W).

A similar Bill introduced earlier this year by Labour MPs fell victim to the dissolution of the Parliament.

Mr. Meacher told the Commons it was essential the public had access as a right to official documents.

Both Labour and Conservative Governments had opposed this and had either promised a more discretionary policy or flirted with a more relaxed code of practice, neither of which would do, he said.

Mr. Meacher said the specific difference between this Bill and the previous one was that the departments or authorities to which it applied were limited to central government and the National Health Service.

The Bill exempted documents which could harm the national interest, Mr. Meacher said. These included defence and security matters, foreign relations, currency or the reserves.

Individuals would be able to correct information on documents about themselves.

Mr. Meacher's Bill also extends the additional five years protection for Cabinet documents contained in the earlier Bill to 10 years.

● Identity witnesses will no longer have to give oral evidence at committal proceedings if prosecution and defence agree, Sir Michael Havers, Attorney-General, announced yesterday.

He told Mr. Ivan Lawrence (C, Burton) that he was modifying guidelines in identification cases.

## Correction

The Financial Times apologises to Abbey National and its investors for the incorrect advertisement which appeared yesterday.

Abbey National Open Bondshares offer from 1st August, a wider choice than ever and the new terms are:

Rate of Interest in	Initial Contracted Period				
	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
	% p.a.	% p.a.	% p.a.	% p.a.	% p.a.
1st year	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.25	10.75
2nd year	9.25	9.25	9.75	10.25	10.75
3rd year	9.75	9.75	9.75	10.25	10.75
4th year	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.75
5th year	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75

Interest rates based on a Share Account rate of 8.75%. (Rates correct as from August 1st 1979.) These rates may vary but the Bondshare differential above normal share rate is guaranteed. 1 year 0.25%, 2 year 0.50%, 3 year 1.00%, 4 year 1.50%, 5 year 2.00%.

The new 5 year Open Bondshare pays a record 10.75% net of basic rate income tax. And you can have monthly income too.

For full details see Abbey National's advertisement on Page 21.

**HIRE AIR CONDITIONING**  
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Factories  
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# Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHUJTERS

## RESEARCH

### Closer look at live cells

A NEW kind of X-ray tube that promises a major advance in the microscopic study of living cells and other minutely structured material has been invented by an IBM scientist.

The technical barriers to the achievement of finer detail in X-ray pictures remain the size of the source and its intensity.

Because X-rays cannot be focused, imaging is akin to a shadowing effect. Unless the source is very small the image cannot be very sharp, for the same reason that a light bulb never throws a sharp shadow of an object. Intensity is important because short exposures are needed to freeze any motion and possibly to reduce dosage.

Basic structure of the IBM tube, invented by Dr. R. A. McCorkle at the Thomas J. Watson Research Centre at Yorktown Heights is a polyethylene capillary up to 2 mm in diameter and 20 mm long, with carbon electrodes at both ends. Just outside the capillary and pointing into it is a carbon cathode.

A current at the astonishing level of 250 amps is passed through the tube for about 100 nanoseconds (billionths of a second), obtained by discharging a bank of capacitors. The result is a dense hot plasma of carbon ions and electrons at temperatures of half a million degrees C. An instant later a beam of high energy electrons is launched from the cathode. Interaction between this beam and the plasma pitches the beam to a diameter of less than 100 microns. Impact of the electrons with the carbon ions in the plasma results in X-ray

emission from a very small area.

The rays produced are "soft" — in the 10 to 100 Angstrom wavelength region — and are particularly useful for the recording method used, which is to place the living cells on an X-ray sensitive resist which the rays expose in a way corresponding to the cells' shape and internal structure, forming a kind of replica which is then viewed under a scanning electron microscope. The exposure obtained in only 100 nanoseconds would take as many or more hours with previous tubes and about half a minute using a synchrotron as the electron/X-ray device.

The only other sources of comparable intensity and size require high power lasers or electron accelerators, both of which are very large and expensive.

Electron microscopes can of course achieve higher resolution than X-rays but they require extensive sample preparation that both kills living cells and alters their structure.

Resolution obtained so far at IBM is about 300 Angstroms with a single flash, but this may improve with the development of new resist.

Although it is only mentioned by IBM in passing, the new technique might also turn out to be useful for making microcircuits: the short wavelength of the X-rays permits much smaller structures than can be achieved by present methods using ultraviolet light.

Furthermore, compared with existing sources of X-rays, the new tube is small, simple and inexpensive.

## IN THE OFFICE

### Small offset duplicator

LATEST ITEM of office equipment to be marketed by Ricca is the RR 1602S small offset duplicator.

It is claimed that it is particularly easy to mount the master: the plate cylinder is fitted with clamps for perforated plates and there is also an automatic straight edge clamp for use with unpunched paper masters which are simply fed through a slot in

the safety cover. Plate ejection is automatic.

Printing speeds can be varied between 3,000 and 7,200 sheets an hour. Paper sizes from 76 by 127 mm to 297 x 394 mm can be handled and print areas can be up to 248 by 337 mm.

Full details of the machine can be obtained from Ricca, at 2, Chandos Road, London, NW10 6UP (01-861 1886).



To make warehouse stacking at very high lift heights easier for the stacker driver, Atlet of Thame, Oxfordshire, has installed this television monitor and level selector in the cab of its high lift stacker. Cameras are placed to each side of the pallet hoist and for each of the levels there are two buttons, one for "stack to the left" and the other for "stack to the right." When, for example, the driver presses level six/left, the load is automatically carried to the sixth tier and the left side camera comes into operation. On the screen, the driver sees the exact disposition of the pallet and can do his job without risk of a stiff neck or difficulty in identifying the goods he is placing or removing. Atlet is on 084421 3531.

## PROCESSES

### A material advantage

CALICO OR scrim is usually placed between a fabric covering and flexible foam cushioning in upholstered furniture, but this can now be substituted with a uniform barrier coating, spray applied, which is said to combine the advantages of a tailored calico lining with economy of sprayed application.

says Sonneborn and Riecke, Jaxa Works, 91 Peregrine Road, Hainault, Essex (01-500 0251).

This waterproof barrier coating effectively prevents discoloration of upholstery fabric by contact with polyurethane and polyether foams, claims the company.

## DRAFTING

### Reduces the tedium

THE FIRST engineering drawings are now being produced from a £350,000 computer-aided design (CAD) facility installed by the British Aerospace Dynamics Group at its Stevenage, Herts, factory in Six Hills Way.

The system simplifies the task of design by eliminating tedious detail drawing work. It is estimated that by enabling draughtsmen to utilise their skills more effectively productivity will be increased by a factor of four.

Improved drawing office productivity is of especial im-

portance to the Group since the amount of work that can currently be handled is being restricted by a shortage of suitably qualified design draughtsmen.

Currently the Stevenage design office produces about 12,000 drawings a year of which it is envisaged as many as 2,500 could be produced more efficiently on the CAD system. It is planned to extend the system within the next year when it will then become the largest in the country, says British Aerospace. The system was produced by ComputerVision.

## TRAINING

### Encouraging the girls

THE ENGINEERING industry may have lost valuable opportunities of utilising the talents of bright young women who have been reluctant to enter this field because of the industry's traditional reputation as an all-male's land.

However, in order to test the reaction of sixth-form girls to a career in engineering—and fully expecting a rather lukewarm response—a one-week residential course called Insight 79 was organised by Loughborough University in conjunction with the Engineering Industry Training Board (EITB) to which the girls were invited.

Only 30 places were offered—yet 775 girls from all over the

UK applied to join the course. The organisers were overwhelmed by this totally unexpected response with the result that they increased the number of places to 45.

Immediately mounting the bandwagon, GEC-Marconi determined not to lose any chances of encouraging the interest of more girls in a career in industry and, with the EITB, has arranged a similar course at the University of Essex where another 40 places are offered.

Course will run from July 29 to August 3 and include talks on the role of engineering in the British economy, the work of a professional engineer, how products are designed and developed, variety of occupa-

tions in engineering, and the role of women in engineering. Companies from Chelmsford, Colchester and Basildon will host the girls for a day and the site visits will consist of a lecture and tour. During the visit the girls will be attached to a professional engineer for a couple of hours to gain an insight into the typical problems that occur.

Host companies include Marconi, Christy and Norris, Betts and Co., York Borg-Warner and STC.

The organisers say they hope the presently untapped female talent that abounds in schools and colleges will be drafted into the industry which, they believe, is the life blood of the country.

## PACKAGING

### Designed to carry the can

REPLACEMENT of metal handles on paint cans and many other types of metal or non-metal container by a simple plastic (polypropylene) carrying device appears to offer some advantages and to be meeting with interest from a number of manufacturers.

The device obviates the need for rivets and manual assembly. It fits around the top of the container and can be attached automatically at speeds up to 180 per minute.

Machines for carrying out the operation have been devised by a Canadian company, Caristrap Corporation, which has set up

offices in the UK at Cwm Draw Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale, Gwent NP23 6UU, South Wales (0495 300445). The UK company will be known as Caristrap (UK).

The machines, the first of which have yet to be brought into this country, can be linked to production lines to fit handles which it is claimed will cost less than their metal counterparts.

Trade name for the handles is Cariband and they can be produced on the usual type of plastic injection moulding machine. Moulding tools can be supplied by Caristrap.

## SECURITY

### Neighbour can keep watch

TRADITIONAL burglar alarms with wiring and installation tend to be expensive. Such a system is fixed and therefore inflexible.

Ardente of Windsor has developed a "plug in" burglar alarm which costs nothing to install and can be moved for maximum security, be added on to at will.

A speaker-like box forms the basis of the system and this is connected to the mains in the first area to be protected. In the event of a break-in it emits a shrill scream which is designed specifically to frighten the burglar. Further detectors for other rooms or areas simply need to be plugged in and they are automatically connected to the whole system.

The detecting beam is radar based and can be adjusted to cover the high risk areas.

One benefit of this system is that, in most cases, it is possible to ask a neighbour to have a warning light installed in his house when a user goes on holiday again—simply plugging the unit in.

Various fail-safe devices have been fitted, which for obvious reasons cannot be detailed.

Fuller details from The Security Information Unit, Ardente, 2 Thames Avenue, Windsor, Berkshire, Windsor, RG4 3JZ.

## COMPONENTS

### Assembly of hose-ends

THE IDEA behind a field assembly system for hydraulic hose ends has been devised by

Brown Brothers Engineering is the provision of first class "factory quality" hose assemblies from a local distributor, or if the volume warrants it, in-house spares production.

In this way the company aims to minimise its customer's downtime of plant and equipment due to hose failure.

Called Coll-o-Crimp, the system provides hose assemblies for all air and hydraulic fluids to factory standards, covering equipment in the construction, agricultural, mechanical handling and many other fields.

The bench-mounted unit consists of a two part collet, each half having four radially moving crimping fingers held in rubber. The two halves are arranged round the connector ferrule which has been placed on the hose-end and the whole nested into the hydraulic press ring.

On pulling the start handle the chambered ring moves down and produces the crimping of ferrule to hose outer rubber.

No special operator training is needed, there are no dials or gauges to set and the whole operation takes 30 seconds. The

collet is bottom loaded, permitting easier handling of long hoses.

The unit consists of the T-400-1 press and T-411 electric pump. The press is able to crimp one- and two wire braid hose assemblies up to 1 1/2 inch diameter and four spiral types up to one inch diameter. The complete equipment is eight inches wide, 16 1/2 inches high and weighs 100 lb.

Coll-o-Crimp facilities are available through the distributor network of Brown Brothers Engineering backed by full technical service and large stock range of fittings and hoses, or on a direct sale basis at a cost of about £800. More from the company at Galsworthy Road, Brackmills, Northampton NN4 0EE (0604 66321).

## Correction

NAME of the range of EFL Arnfield aerial work platforms (this page July 12) was wrongly given as Alpha. A correct designation is Astral. The Calavar Moonshot aerial work platform mentioned in the same report has a maximum working height of 150 ft and maximum outreach of 70 ft.

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## SAFETY

### Prevents a shattering experience

BECAUSE GLASS is cheap, readily available and easy to clean it holds a number of attractions for industrial and consumer uses, particularly as containers in the food and chemical industries. Despite its popular appeal, however, it has one major disadvantage—it breaks if dropped or given a hard blow.

These problems could cause fatal accidents, disfigurement or grave injury where glass containers are used in the supply of dangerous chemicals—acids, strong alkalis and toxic agents—should there be an accident in the laboratory or on the factory floor.

There is now a method of coating the glass exterior of a container so that should it fall on to a hard surface and shatter, its plastic envelope retains the glass and fragments from flying, and is able also to capture the contents long enough for their reclamation or safe disposal. This film is created by applying about 350 microns of Du Pont Sarlyn, using electrostatic powder spraying techniques, announces Safety Coatings, 23, Railway Drive, Ashley Heath, Ringwood, Hants (04254 6328).

Chemical resistance of this material is said to be excellent (even mineral acids do not make it brittle) and the worst that happens, claims the company, is that discoloration occurs. Possible alternatives of PVC, says Safety Coatings, would become brittle and ineffective in contact with nearly all strong acids.

The Du Pont material is claimed to be very tough—it is often used for the outer skins of golf balls, skis and skateboards.

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### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1978

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS - 14th JUNE 1979

1978 for Elf Aquitaine was a year of continuing progress. Our oil and gas exploration effort increased yet again; the development continued of the Frigg gas field in the North Sea; the economic situation of the refining-distribution sector has begun to turn round after modifications to our refining structure and the continuing integration of Elf and Antar activities; and, finally, we have increased the number of sources of our crude oil supply. The Group has also invested more heavily this year in regional development programmes.

### Principal events of 1978

#### Exploration

Exploration expenditure amounted to some 1,950 million francs this year against 1,500 million in 1977. This effort has led to the discovery of new reserves, mostly of gas. Our acreage holdings have been consolidated, and even considerably increased in Africa, and negotiations have been started in areas such as China where the Group is not yet represented.

#### Production

Crude oil and condensates: 18.5 million metric tons in 1978 compared to 18.4 in 1977. This represents the Group's share of a total production of 22.9 million metric tons for which it acted as operator.

Commercial natural gas: 15,700 million cubic meters (Group share out of total operated production of 19,300 million m<sup>3</sup>) up from 11,900 in 1977 (+ 32 %). This increase comes from the build up of production from the North Sea (Frigg and Ekofisk).

#### Sulfur

Elf Aquitaine produced 2.9 million metric tons of sulfur and marketed 2.6 million in 1978. Total production of sulfur in the western hemisphere in the same period was 25 million metric tons.

#### Coal

The labour disputes in the U.S. coal industry at the beginning of the year had a serious adverse effect on the production and profitability of Aquitaine Pennsylvania, the coal producing subsidiary of Aquitaine Company of Canada.

#### Nickel

In 1978, SNEA's 50 % subsidiary Société Métallurgique Le Nickel (SLN) suffered from the combined effects of the steel crisis, the arrival of new producers on the market, and the fall of the dollar (the currency in which nickel prices are fixed) against the French franc. The company made a loss of 600 million francs, included in which is a stock write down of 100 million francs. The fact that the market has picked up

somewhat since the start of 1979 is unlikely to alter the need for a new solution to assure the financial stability of the company in the long term.

#### Crude oil supply, refining and distribution

In 1978, the Group's refining and distribution sector continued to operate at satisfactory capacity levels. Although considerable losses were made, the market turn round that became visible at the end of 1978, and which has been confirmed since, gives good grounds for thinking that this sector should again become profitable in 1979.

32.2 million metric tons of crude oil were delivered to Elf Aquitaine refineries in 1978, against 34 the previous year. Elf Aquitaine's share of the French market has decreased from 23.3 % to 22.7 % in the same period. Quantities sold under our two brand names Elf and Antar have decreased in the same proportion. This slight regression is explained by the decision deliberately to reduce the abnormally high rebates generally granted in the trade.

#### Petrochemicals and plastics

These activities are mainly carried out within the ATO Group in which Elf Aquitaine and Total Chimie are equal participants. Increased demand for plastics was insufficient to absorb existing European overcapacity, and the market remained depressed in 1978. ATO ended the year without profit or loss. Considerable sums were invested during the year to increase industrial efficiency.

#### Pharmaceuticals and cosmetics

Sales of SNEA's 100 % owned subsidiary SANOFI were 2,840 million francs in 1978, up 21 % over 1977. This increase, together with the merging of certain production and marketing units, has led to a doubling of net income compared with last year.

### Financial highlights

Net income of the parent company was 906 million francs (50 francs per share). This is nearly at the same level as last year if we take out the

exceptional capital gain of some 300 million francs realised in 1977. This profit figure was approved by the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on 14th June, 1979.

Consolidated cash flow from operations was 6,063 million francs after deduction of current taxes on income of 2,069 million francs. This represents a 19 % improvement over last year, mainly due to our North Sea production. Depreciation, depletion and amortization amounted to 2,170 million francs, and 1,605 million francs of exploration expense have been charged against income.

Consolidated net income for the Group is 1,509 million francs against 1,784 million francs last year (this latter figure, however, includes a large exceptional profit). This means earnings per share of 83 francs as compared with 97 francs in 1977.

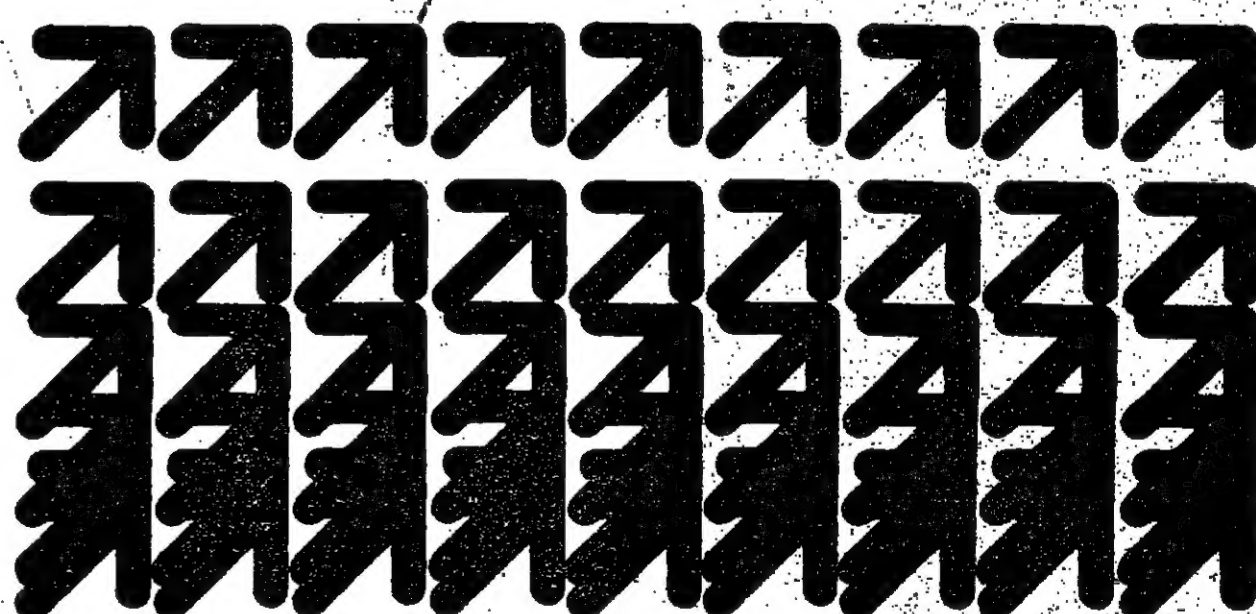
Acquisitions of long term assets in 1978 amounted to 6,378 million francs (including exploration expenditure), a drop of 21 % under the previous year. This reduction is essentially due to a decrease in field development expenditure as the Frigg field development in the North Sea nears completion. Exploration expenditure, on the other hand, is up 31 % over 1977. It has been totally financed out of cash flow, whereas other acquisitions of long term assets were only 83 % covered by internally generated funds. The Group's ratio of indebtedness fell from 49 % to 44 %.

#### Dividends

The dividend for 1978 amounts to 326.3 million francs, or 18 francs per share (old and new), after an increase of 20 % in issued capital during the year, compared with 17.5 francs in 1977. The dividend gives shareholders the right to a 9 francs tax credit. Payment has been made against presentation of coupon n° 24 since 3rd July, 1979.

#### Forecast for 1979

Looking forward from the end of the first half year, it appears that 1979 should be a satisfactory year for the Group. Production should increase, mainly thanks to our gas developments coming on stream. The economic climate also shows a considerable improvement for our refining, distribution and petrochemical sectors. If this trend continues, it is reasonable to expect that the year 1979 will see a significant improvement in profitability.



### INITIATIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Ideas, initiatives, action, have made it possible for the EFIM group to employ, from 1962 to date, 47,000 people in 120 companies and to reach a total turnover of 1946 billion of Italian lire, operating in the following fields: aluminum, transportation, light machinery, foods and tourism.

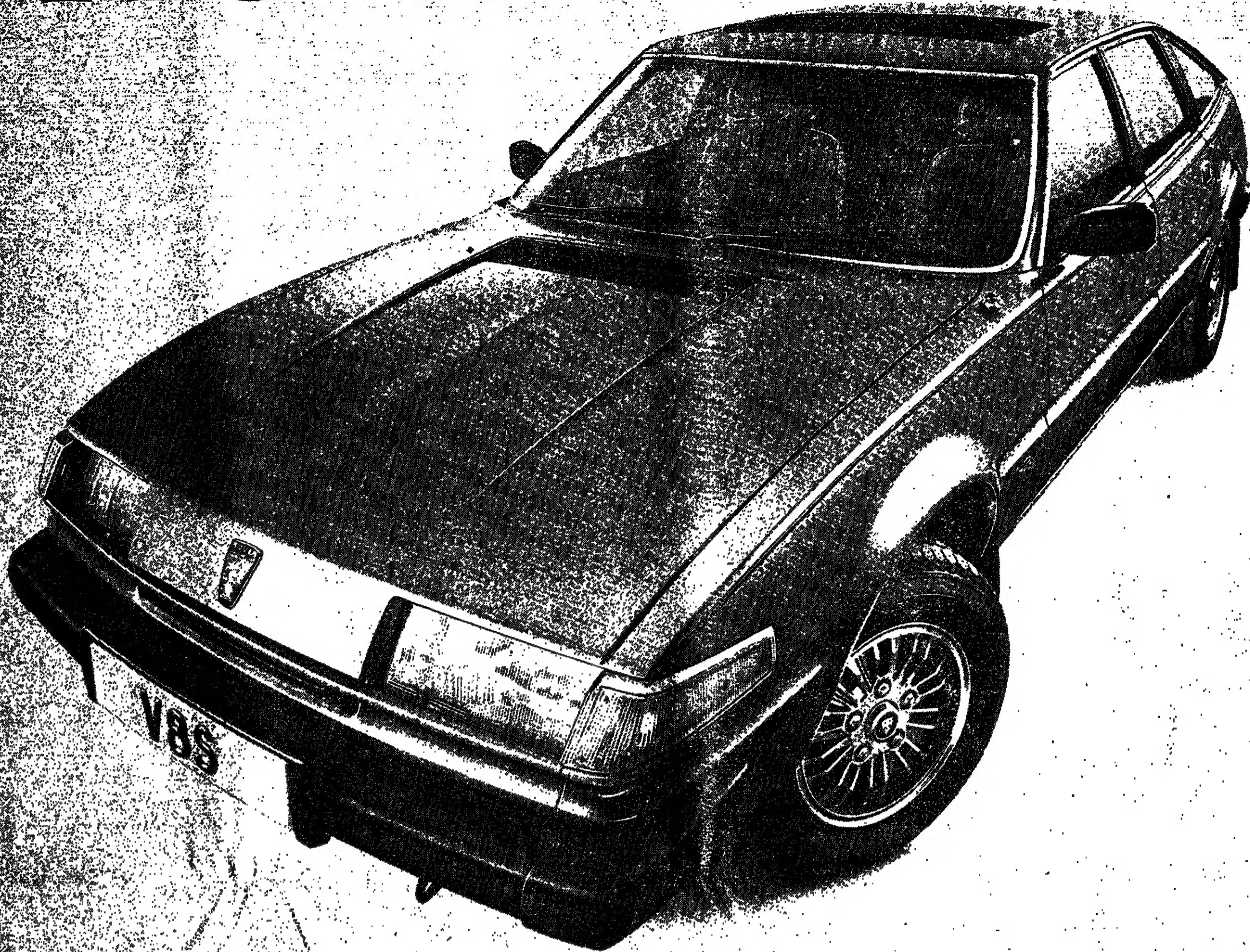
	Workforce in 1978	Turnover in 1978
FINANZIARIA E. BREDA	6,000 units	261 billion
BREDA FERROVIARIA	19,000 "	563 "
INSUD	1,000 "	25 "
MCS	19,000 "	950 "
SOPAL	2,000 "	147 "

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The V8S is fitted with a fully integrated air conditioning system operated from a discreet console below the fascia.

It's been tested and proved from the heat of a Texas desert to the sub-zero temperatures of Lapland. Power steering and self-energising ride level units make the V8S a pleasure to handle, fast or slow, empty or fully loaded. And to care for your safety even further, we've included wash wipe units on the headlamps and wide-track, road-hugging 195 steel radial tyres.

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The new V8S has all-over shag-pile carpeting and deeply luxurious cross-ribbed velvet seat upholstery, with head restraints and inertia reel seat belts front and rear. The door panels are upholstered in luxury cloth. With all this 5-seater luxury, the V8S retains all the versatility that's

become a Rover hallmark: the tailgate opens into a roomy, conventional boot or, with the rear seat folded down, into 35.4 cubic feet of estate car carrying capacity. Not that any estate ever looked this good.



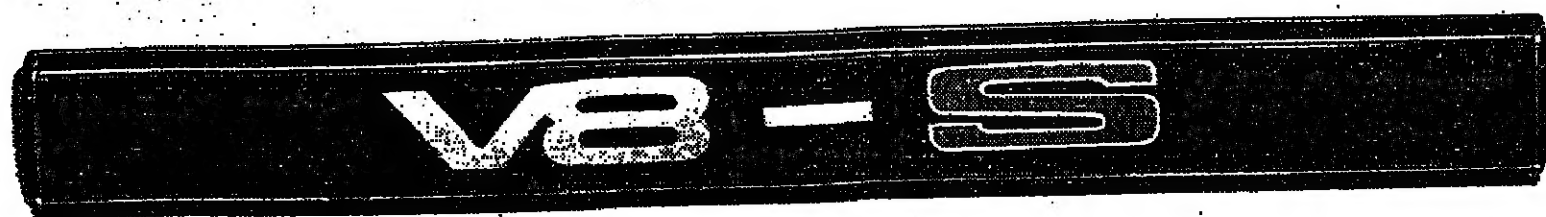
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<sup>†</sup>Performance figure from Rover Engineering.

For full details of the new V8S Rover, write to Rover Information Services, PO Box 98, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PE. \*Official Govt. Fuel Consumption figures, V8 5-speed manual, urban motoring: 16.2 mpg (17.4 litres/100km); constant 56 mph (90 km/h): 36.3 mpg (7.9 litres/100km); constant 75 mph (120 km/h): 27.9 mpg (10.1 litres/100km).



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controlling or half interest in trading company with minimum profit of £30,000. Existing management might remain with service contracts. All replies in strict confidence to: Box G 4115, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

## APPOINTMENTS

## International post at Midland Bank

Mr. Herve de Carmoy, chief executive of Midland Bank France, has been appointed a General Manager, MIDLAND BANK, with responsibilities within the international division. Mr. de Carmoy, who will be concerned particularly with the European area, remains chairman of the executive Board of Midland Bank France and chairman of the Board of Banque de la Construction et des Travaux Publics and will continue to reside in Paris.

Mr. Gervais Walker, chairman of Avon County Council, has been elected chairman of the executive council of the ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COUNCILS. Mr. Gervais has been vice-chairman of the ACC for the past year, and is a former chairman of its policy committee. He takes over from Dame Elizabeth Coker, a member of Essex County Council, who has been chairman for the past three years.

Mr. J. Grilling and Mr. Alan Turner have been appointed members of the FOOD STANDARDS COMMITTEE until August 31, 1982. Mr. W. A. Chapman has been re-appointed a member until August 31, 1981.

Mr. M. R. Schofield is joining the Board of the building products division of the DELTA METAL COMPANY from August 1. He is at present financial director of Deltaflow, a subsidiary of the building products division.

Mr. K. M. Cole, managing director of BORDEN (UK), has been appointed to the additional position of chairman following the retirement of Mr. E. A. Collinson.

The MERSEYSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY has elected Mr. Roger Millington assistant director (commerce) to succeed Mr. Peter Powell.

Mr. Ewart W. H. Sharman has been appointed secretary and director of NICKERSON INVESTMENTS and all its subsidiaries.

BESTOBELL has set up a management structure comprising four operating groups to the UK headed by executives with back-up and control from a small group directed by Mr. A. Marshall, chairman of the company. In charge of each new operating group are Mr. M. E. J. Turner has been appointed managing director of GUILDHALL INSURANCE COMPANY in addition to his present position as manager of the reinsurance department of the Sun Alliance Insurance Group.

Mr. Ken Smith has been appointed full-time director of THE WORLD WINE FAIR AND FESTIVAL by Wine Fairs and Promotions. He will take up his appointment shortly after the end of this year's event which is on in Bristol until July 32.

Mr. J. H. Delmar-Morgan and Mr. C. P. Falty have joined TEATHER AND GREENWOOD, stockbrokers, as associated members. Mr. Falty will join the partnership on August 13.

Mr. David Klein has resigned as managing director of VICKERS to become executive director with special responsibility for market and product development. Mr. Gordon Stuart, who has been involved with the Eastern European and Far Eastern markets, has become managing director. Mr. R. A. J. Emery, former chairman of Dawney Day Industries and a non-executive member of the Board, has retired and his position has been taken by Mr. G. J. Harding. Mr. Les Palmer remains deputy managing director and Mr. Arthur Hawes, commercial director.

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## THE MARKETING SCENE

## ABM wins Midland and joins the Rail queue

ALLEN BRADY and Marsh, one of the agencies competing for £5m in 1980 worth of British Rail advertising, has won the £3m Midland Bank account, wrestling it from Aker Barker Hegemann. The Midland account, one of the most stable in advertising history, was lodged with the original Charles Barker agency 114 years ago. For good measure, ABM has also won the Provincial Building Society account, expected to be worth more than £1m next year.

After a long reappraisal of its marketing and advertising strategies, British Rail is to bring together its Inter-City, London and South-East, and corporate campaigns under one agency roof.

At present, Inter-City, worth £2.37m in 1978, is handled by D'Arcy-MacManus and Masius; London and the South-East, worth £922,300 in the same period, is handled by Saatchi and Saatchi, Garland-Compton, Bent-Saatchi and Masius will be pitching for a completely new brief and specification in September, along with six other contenders: J. Walter Thompson, Dorland Advertising, Ted Bates, Benton and Bowles, Collett Dickinson Pearce and Allen Brady and Marsh. Launch date for the new, integrated BR campaign is May 1, 1980.

ABM's capture of Midland Bank is noteworthy even by its

own spectacular standards. Known sometimes as the Jingle Kings of EC4 (its clients include Woolworth, Hepworths, Berger, Wrigley and British-American Tobacco), ABM billed £24m last year, 1978 billings are already on course for £31m.

ABM will handle the Midland's personal, industrial and commercial advertising, expected to bill £3m in 1980. The appointment starts next January. The bank said yesterday it had been greatly impressed by ABM's research and evaluation of market conditions as well as its creative proposals.

Despite its loss, the Charles Barker Group is still heading for an overall group gain of 22 per cent this year to £54m. Chairman Julian Wellesley said yesterday: "It's sad. We had that account for 114 years. Research showed our theme, 'Midland Teamwork', to be the strongest in the market, far stronger than Lloyd's Black Horse, and we pitched on the basis of strengthening and extending our work. I imagine the lure of new faces proved irresistible."

British Rail said yesterday that it felt it was wrong that its corporate campaign should be separated from its product advertising. According to a spokesman: "Our monitoring and research showed we were confusing people. In the London area they've had to absorb three different advertising themes:

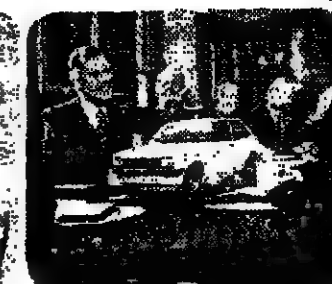
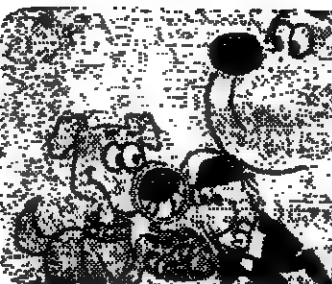
Inter-City's 'Have a Good Trip', London and the South-East region's 'Think Again, Take a Train', and the corporate message, 'British Rail: The Backbone of the Nation'."

The growth in railroad sales was another factor in the decision to integrate the campaigns. It is also thought that the change of government may have prompted the Rail Board to seek to sharpen up its public reputation.

Although British Rail is a complex organisation for agencies to deal with, its record of advertising U-turns offends some observers. One said yesterday that in the past 10 years it had changed agencies more often than time-tables. At the time of its last policy change it was strongly advised to concentrate all advertising endeavour via one agency, but natural caution prevailed.

Nevertheless, the account will be bitterly fought for by the competing eight. Even Collett Dickinson, the dozen of Euston Road, may feel tempted to spend money on its campaign presentation, something it normally eschews.

Mike Johnson, joint managing director of Masius, which handles Inter-City, said yesterday: "We're looking forward to the pitch in September. It will be a marvellous opportunity to convert a really good account into a spectacular one." MT-N.



## No rocking the boat with autumn rates

BY MICHAEL THOMPSON-NOEL

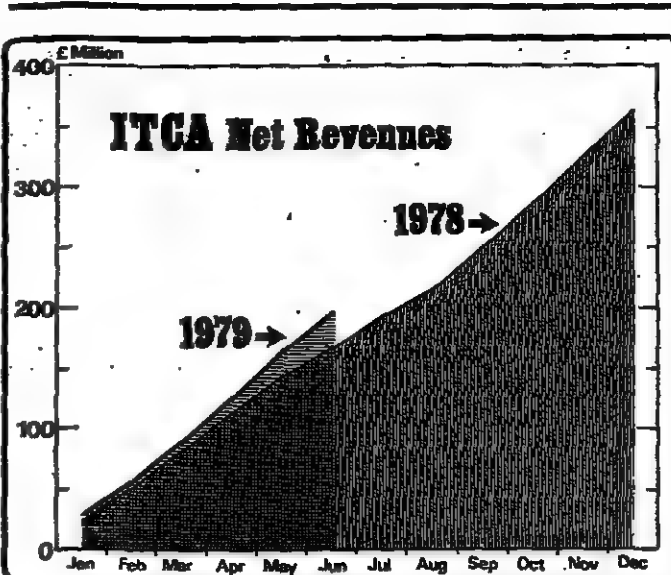
NO ONE LIKES to see Coronation Street off the air, as it was on Monday when ITV was blacked out in most parts of the country because of a 24-hour strike by electricians and studio staff. To the relief of the great viewing public, things should soon be back to normal in the Rover's Return. To the even greater relief of advertising agencies and their clients, the round of TV advertising rate increases due this autumn is averaging out at between 15 and 20 per cent.

There are variations, though in general these concern the way in which individual ITV companies are restructuring their rate-cards so as to expand revenue capability.

Average basic increases in the 15 to 20 per cent range are certainly below what the market could have withstood, though no one believes that the network has suddenly become charitable. Apart from the fact that the contractors may bring in further rate increases next spring, the general view is that because existing contracts for ITV-1 are due to be renewed or terminated late next year, and because of current uncertainty over the eventual destination of contracts for ITV-2, the network thought it unpolitic to rock the boat with rate increases that could have been called swingeing.

The contractors are playing for very large stakes, which is why their new rate cards look almost demure.

According to one specialist airline buyer: "Several stations haven't finalised their rate increases, but the broad picture is clear enough. Thames is bringing in a straight 15 per cent increase with no fine-tuning of segments. ATV is quoting a 15 per cent increase, but has made some segment changes, some quite dramatic. Trident has settled for 15 per cent. Southern is quoting a basic rate increase of 12.27 per cent, but some specific charges are rising by very much more than that. Granada is up 15 per cent. STAGS (Scottish and Grampian) by 16.6 per cent."



John Hewson, joint media director at Collett Dickinson Pearce, says he is by no means averse to rate increases of 15-20 per cent, "with one important proviso, and that is that the contractors sell all their airtime and don't prop up prices by holding some back. In any case, the eventual increase in prices may not necessarily be that high: if the demand's not there, the rates will be cut back. A 15 to 20 per cent increase is very much more preferable than any rationing of airtime."

Brian Hargreaves, the media director at D'Arcy-MacManus and Masius in charge of TV advertising, stresses the need to distinguish between basic rate-card increases and the degree of fine-tuning with which some contractors are improving their rate-card potential. "By my estimation, total rate-card capability has been increased by 25 per cent in general. We'd be delighted if we only paid 15 per cent more to get our ads on TV, but that's not going to be the case. It will depend on demand, and on the sales policies of the contractors."

According to another media director: "We're not richly off in alternatives. In print advertising, there's virtually no colour available this autumn, while black and white, in the right media, is not that widely available either."

According to Roy Langridge, media director at J. Walter Thompson: "There are many who feel they should be lobbying for a total reorganisation of British broadcasting, and that includes the BBC. With

## INDEX OF MEDIA RATES (1970=100)

	Total Press	Year on year %	TV	Year on year % change	Combined Index	Year on year % change
1965	82.3	+ 3.8	91.2	- 2.3	84.7	+ 1.8
1966	83.7	+ 1.4	94.8	+ 3.9	86.7	+ 2.4
1967	84.4	+ 0.8	99.8	+ 5.4	88.9	+ 2.5
1968	89.5	+ 6.0	114.8	+14.9	96.8	+ 8.9
1969	92.2	+ 3.0	109.0	- 5.0	96.7	- 0.1
1970	100	+ 8.5	100	- 8.3	100	+ 3.4
1971	108.6	+ 8.6	109.0	+ 9.0	108.7	+ 8.7
1972	114.5	+ 5.4	121.6	+11.6	116.3	+ 7.0
1973	118.5	+ 3.5	133.4	+ 9.7	122.2	+ 5.1
1974	137.7	+16.2	125.8	- 5.7	135.0	+10.5
1975	177.5	+28.9	152.6	+21.3	171.3	+26.9
1976	211.6	+19.2	204.9	+34.3	209.8	+22.5
1977	252.0	+19.1	241.3	+17.8	248.9	+18.6
1978	282.2	+12.0	289.3	+19.9	284.2	+14.3

The TV index takes account of discounts from rate cards, the press index does not.

Sources: Advertising Association

## Getting the price right

BY PETER KRAUSHAR

NOW THAT the Price Commission is about to be phased out, companies are having to think hard and long about their pricing decisions. It is usually a tough exercise, particularly as it is difficult to predict the reactions of consumers. Yet pricing—determining the value that consumers put on a product or service—is a vital area. In two surveys carried out in 1978 and 1979, it emerged as the most important problem facing consumer goods companies in the context of new product development.

The kind of questions that companies face are:

- 1—Will a new product, with certain advantages over those already on the market, justify the price premium which is almost invariably asked for?
- 2—Will it be more profitable to go for a lower unit price, and size?
- 3—What sales volume will be

generated by a new product which is lower priced than those already on the market, perhaps because it is made from cheaper ingredients or is more cheaply packaged?

The right answer to such questions can be worth millions, yet some companies still tend to use guesswork. Because of the importance of pricing, Pricing Research was set up in 1970. Since then, over 100 pricing projects have been carried out in consumer goods markets.

What has been learnt in the last nine years? Some points stand out:

- 1—Consumers continue to be very confused about prices, often only 15-20 per cent of them can recall with any accuracy what they last paid for an item.
- 2—On the other hand they are extremely interested in price levels; as many companies will testify, price is often the most important factor in the consumer's choice of a product.

There are no far fewer pricing points than prior to decimalisation. Perhaps 10p, 50p, £1, £10 are still important in some cases, but this does not always follow and in any case consumer attitudes change.

There are no far fewer pricing points than prior to decimalisation. Perhaps 10p, 50p, £1, £10 are still important in some cases, but this does not always follow and in any case consumer attitudes change.

The assumption that the higher social classes are less price sensitive than average is often untrue.

Children, if they are buying for themselves, are far more price sensitive than adults. It is strange that pricing is such a neglected area, particularly as there are now more and more opportunities for constructive price changes in a number of markets. It is not too much to claim that the companies which best understand consumers' perceptions of price and value will gain enormously in the 1980s.

Peter Kraushar is chairman of Kraushar, Andrews and Sasse, and of Pricing Research.

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CHRYSLER 2000 GL	£29.97	£126.64	£37.28	£105.76
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## JOBS COLUMN and APPOINTMENTS

## Batch for broking · DPM for PDP · Bubbly

BY MICHAEL DIXON

WHAT is worth \$300bn to \$400bn a year and based mainly in London? The world-wide interbank currency deposit market. And why did I trouble you with the question? Because there's a small batch of jobs on offer in precisely that market, which enables authorised banks which have but don't immediately need big deposits of some currency, to deal with those which are placed the reverse way round.

For some time now these world-wide dealings have been wheeling smoothly around a nucleus largely constituted of about 15 UK broking concerns, well and long established in the City. But the Bank of England, which last year assumed the direct regulation of the market, is considering enlarging the nucleus fairly soon by granting licences to perhaps a couple of new currency-deposit brokers.

One of the aspiring newcomers is Longmar, Deposit Brokers, which is now seeking a small number of additional front-line staff to be based in the City. It is seeking them through the medium of one Norman Philpot, head-hunter and alleged cricketer. (I insert the qualification because I have no evidence of his wizardry at the wicket other than his uninhibited—and often uninvited—description of himself as “the right-handed Gary Sobers.”)

The first job is for a managing broker and director who will report to Roger Gewolb, the

36-year-old leader of the Longmar concern. Candidates should already be at or only just below the level of director in a firm where they have gained copious experience of trading in Euro-currency deposits on the London and international markets. Demonstrable success in managing a broking team is needed, too.

Salary is not quoted. The reason, I am told, is that in such open professions it is considered *démotivant* to define salary except as but one part of a complex whole which I will call the rewards, rather than pollute this place with the alternative term “remuneration package.” (Ugh!)

As for the value of the whole, well, my estimate would be at least £20,000 and rising higher for those whose record justified it. The extent of the flexibility is suggested by the specification that candidates could be aged anywhere between their mid-20s and mid-30s, “provided that they are not old.”

The same provision applies to 20-odd to 40-odd-year-olds who might feel more suited to joining Longmar in one of the “several” jobs which it has open for brokers. Candidates here must be personally concerned with dealing in Euro-currency deposits, and preferably already at least within reach of manager rank because the aim is to recruit people who will be suitable for swift promotion to directorships.

My estimate of the rewards

for the brokers would be at least £20,000, once again rising according to experience. Telephoned inquiries to Mr. Philpot at 01-248 3812. Written applications outlining career to him at NPA Recruitment Services, 60 Cheapside, London EC2.

## Computer chief

MOTORISTS travelling from Wales to London recently may have been startled to find themselves following a life-size, stuffed elephant shackled by its ankles to a trolley. It was being towed in for sale by Phillips, the auctioneering group.

Which gives an idea of how far the group has extended from the fine-art specialisation with which it began in 1798. The 35 per cent growth over the past 12 months which chief executive Christopher Weston is expected to announce next week, suggests how Phillips has expanded in business terms, too.

High on the list of managerial objects for the coming year is the efficient and effective development throughout the group of a PDP 11/70 computer which has lately been installed. And to this end, Mr. Weston is looking for a data processing manager.

The recruit will be responsible to company secretary Geoffrey Spence for all computer affairs, both hardware and software. Duties are defined in three main areas: first to make sure that the installation runs efficiently;

next to keep watch on and assess the effectiveness of the system's working; third to advise the group's top management on how to make the best use of the facilities, and thereafter assist the administrative staff in doing so.

Christopher Weston wants candidates to be versed in management of the project, personnel or administrative kind. If not already ranking as a data processing manager, applicants should have demonstrable success in senior systems work. It is essential that whoever takes the job should be able to assume full responsibility for progressively putting the installation to work as widely as is profitable throughout the Phillips business. Familiarity with financial applications would be a definite advantage.

Age apparently matters little, but I suspect that there would be a preference for someone at the younger end keen to make a name by showing what he or she could do with a PDP 11/70 in a company valuing and auctioning objects ranging from Old Masters, through toy soldiers, to Welsh elephants. I am rather surprised, by the way, that the creature was not detained and impounded at Cardiff Arms Park, seeing that the Welsh Rugby selectors can no longer count on the Pontypool Front Row.

Salary is not specified. In view of the likely preference for younger candidates, however, I

would estimate £10,000 or so.

Application forms can be obtained by telephoning Mr. Weston's office at 01-829 6802. Readers wishing instead to submit their curriculum vitae should address it to him at Blenstock House, 7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS. Telex 398355 Blen G.

## Boyden's reply

FINALLY, before the Jobs Column goes on holiday until September 11, thanks to all the readers who have commented further on Boyden International's research into what its head-hunters look for in candidates, discussed here on July 3 and 17.

One person, recruitment consultant Joan de Smith, was even moved to a poem entitled “The Perfect Manager,” which clearly owes a debt to Sir Percy Blakeney. I cannot quote it all, but the concluding couplet is: Is he in Leyland, is he in Shell, Has he charisma—has he hell!

That same sentiment was acknowledged in different ways by numerous others, including Lord Birdwood, of Boyden International itself. But he is concerned to repudiate one charge, which, as I reported nine days ago, several readers had made. It was that the research project implied that Boyden was arrogant.

“Quite the contrary,” states Lord Birdwood, “it was because we were aware that we were allocating appropriate priorities for particular management jobs” that Boyden asked the independent RHIR Institute to study the consultants' methods.

“The charge of arrogance would have greater substance if the interview between consultant and potential candidate were not just one step in the process of selection. Before the interview, the consultant is normally in possession of information about and opinions on the candidate from disinterested sources. He has also gone deeply into his client's requirements and his personal preferences. After the interview, if the client meets and becomes interested in the candidate, a meticulous reference check would be made, if the candidate agrees.”

Even so, Boyden doesn't like the word charisma, and makes an offer which readers may care to consider while the holiday season lasts.

Can anyone, Lord Birdwood asks, come up with a better way of describing briefly the collection of personal qualities which enable some people to “create around themselves a climate in which ideas and other people thrive.” The Jobs Column reader who, in Boyden's view, produces the best attempt, will be awarded a magnum of champagne.

Orion Bank Five figure salary

## International Investment Management

Owing to the expansion of our discretionary management services we are looking for an investment manager in his/her late twenties/early thirties with previous experience to join a team of international investment bankers and to be responsible to an Investment Committee, who are members of the Board, for:

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Applications, which will be treated in strict confidence, should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae, and addressed to:

The Personnel Director,  
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The position requires a mature qualified accountant, probably not less than 40, who has had extensive successful experience in commercial management, preferably in a comparable capacity.

A remuneration package of about £20,000 per annum is envisaged for a person having the right qualifications, experience and personality.

Candidates, male or female, should apply in confidence to R. Spooner, Annan Impey Morris, Management Consultants, 40/43 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JF, giving brief relevant information.

A.I.M.

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Please write with full career details to: Mavis Clark, Personnel Manager, Hill Samuel Investment Management Limited, 45 Beech Street, London, EC2P 2LX. Telephone: 01-628 8011.



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A major American Stockbroking firm requires experienced Institutional account executives for its London office.

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Applications in writing to:  
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c. 25 c. £7,500

Our client is a very substantial British consumer goods manufacturer, retailer and wholesaler in the UK and overseas. The opportunity arises to join the small London headquarters financial team and participate at an early age in the overall financial control of one of the leading businesses of its kind in the world.

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Peter Bingham & Partners

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West London

A well-established and expanding international industrial leasing and finance company is seeking a young and ambitious Credit Analyst to supplement its existing Credit Department.

The ideal candidate, preferably aged 25-35, will possess either an appropriate accounting qualification or a sound knowledge of analysis techniques and be capable of working with minimum supervision.

An attractive salary, dependent upon experience, will accompany an excellent fringe benefits package. Ref: R2373/FT.

REPLIES will be forwarded direct, unopened and in confidence to the client unless addressed to our Security Manager listing companies to which they may not be sent. They should include comprehensive career details, not refer to previous correspondence with PA and quote the reference on the envelope.

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مكاتب الإعلان

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Applicants with less than two years tax experience are unlikely to have gained the necessary experience, and a recognised accountancy qualification would be desirable.

Please write in confidence giving full details of your age, qualifications and experience, stating the names of any organisation to which your letter may not be sent, to: John Beach (Ref. 454/FT).

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In addition to a five-figure salary and company car, the benefits package includes free BUPA membership assistance with family education and relocation help where appropriate.

Please write with full career details to: P. M. D. Roberts, Divisional Personnel Director, TI Machine Division, Fleetchamstead Highway, Coventry CV4 9DA.



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## Marketing Director

Edinburgh c. £20,000

One of Scotland's most prestigious whisky distillers is creating a new post of Marketing Director to be responsible for implementing the Company's marketing strategy and operations, covering budgets, advertising, packaging, sales promotion and the co-ordination of sales. It will involve direct contact with overseas agents, close liaison with international affiliates and the overall direction of the Company's home and overseas sales forces.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a well-travelled marketing executive with senior management experience in either a leading fast moving consumer goods company or a marketing orientated beverage company.

The age structure of the current top management team suggests that the ideal candidate should be between 35 and 45, prepared to travel extensively, and capable of dealing with a challenging role.

All the usual benefits.

Interested applicants should send brief but comprehensive details of their career and education to Charles Barker-Coulthard Ltd, quoting Ref. No. 069/1/FT.

**Charles Barker-Coulthard**  
30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4EA  
Telephone 01-236 0526

Management Selection - Executive Search

## Credit Analyst

We are currently seeking an experienced analyst to supplement our expanding Corporate Banking team. Candidates should possess an appropriate accounting qualification together with an in-depth knowledge of analysis techniques and the ability to work with the minimum of supervision.

An attractive salary will be offered, commensurate with experience together with an excellent benefits package.

Please apply in writing enclosing cv to Personnel Department, United California Bank, California House, 36/39 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AS.

**UNITED CALIFORNIA BANK**

## Solicitor Merchant Banking

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited require an additional Solicitor for the Group Secretary's Department. The person appointed will be involved in the full range of secretarial activities including statutory, legal, insurance, pension and property matters.

Experience of such work or in a commercial practice is essential.

The salary will be negotiable and the Company's standard conditions of employment include four weeks' annual holiday, a non-contributory pension scheme, a mortgage subsidy scheme and a family medical insurance scheme.

Applications in writing giving details of age, education, qualifications and experience should be addressed to:

Head of Staff and Administration,  
J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited,  
230 Cheapside,  
London, EC2V 6DS.

J. HENRY SCHRODER WAGG & CO. LIMITED

## International Banking

An international, merchant bank based in London requires a credit analyst specialising in business and country risk analysis for Iran and other Middle Eastern countries. Impeccable English and Farsi essential. The successful candidate must have a general economics background with at least a Masters Degree, ideally in industrial economics. It is unlikely that anyone not currently working in a banking/financial environment will have the necessary experience and expertise for this position. Understanding of computer techniques an advantage. Salary circa £10,000 with usual benefits. Applications, including detailed Curriculum vitae should be sent in strictest confidence to Box A.684S, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

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**DUNLOP AND BADENOCH (AB)**  
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25 Lime Street, EC3 01-623 3544

**db**

## Planning Analyst

C. London

£6,500 to £9,000

Our client is an autonomous subsidiary of a prestige British public group with wide spread interests. The subsidiary itself is closely associated with the construction industry and turnover this year is estimated at over £100m.

The Group Planning Manager is part of the small Head Office team. He now needs an analyst to assist him with capital appraisals, market analysis, researching acquisitions

Please send a full CV quoting reference (DD36). List separately any Company to whom your details should not be forwarded.

and corporate planning using computer modelling techniques. You will be an MBA, ACA, or numerate graduate from another management discipline, in your mid to late 20's, looking for a means of widening your horizons. The salary will be negotiable, according to your experience and the other benefits include free lunches.

## Financial Appointments

72/74 Brewer Street, London W1

## Managing Director

The company, part of a public group, has a name second to none in weatherproof clothing for leisure and work, both of which are high-growth markets. The last two years have seen rapid progress to sales in excess of £5m. with healthy profits making an appreciable contribution to the resurgence of the group.

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There is a capable and enthusiastic team, with the financial and manufacturing resources to exploit present and new markets.

Candidates, in their middle 30's to early 40's, must have had several years' management experience, including profit responsibility, in manufacturing industries ideally but not necessarily serving similar consumer markets.

Salary around £15,000 plus excellent benefits, with generous re-location assistance to the North Midlands.

Please send career details - in confidence - to D. A. Ravenscroft ref. B.25495.

This appointment is open to men and women.

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Please send a c.v. or write for a personal history form indicating any companies with whom your application should not be discussed. D. M. Watkins ref. B.1341.

This appointment is open to men and women.

**MSL**  
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United Kingdom Australia Belgium Canada  
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## Financial Director

W. London

c. £14,000 + car

A recently established and expanding private family Group, with diverse activities throughout Southern England, seeks a Chartered Accountant aged 45-55.

Reporting to one of the Joint Chairmen and Managing Directors, you will be responsible for all aspects of financial control, with special emphasis on taxation, corporate planning, and development of the Group and its systems.

Drawing on previous allied experience, you will be aware of the need for strong financial advice within a developing and acquisition-minded group, encompassing a variety of individuals and disciplines.

Please write with full personal history to John R. Ellis, FCA, quoting reference JE/30/FDF.

**Lloyd Management**  
Recruitment Consultants  
125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA 01-405 3499

## CREDIT CONTROL MANAGER

Age 25-40

to £9,000 + bonus

One of the City's largest and most successful firms of Lloyds Brokers, with a turnover approaching £1bn, is seeking a qualified Accountant to fill the key position of Credit Control Manager.

This role carries formidable responsibilities (and authority) across the whole range of credit control, including the assessment of all potential new clients, regular reporting at Board meetings, management of a small team and even the computerisation of relevant systems. As the firm maintains its extraordinary rate of expansion, so this position grows in importance.

Previous experience of credit would be useful, but the position can also be recommended to ACAs seeking their first move into a challenging commercial environment. The successful candidate will become an integral part of the firm's financial management team.

**Career plan**  
PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

Please apply to:  
Nigel Halsey  
Career Plan Ltd.  
Chichester House  
Chichester Road  
London WC2A 1EG  
Telephone 242 5775

## Financial Director Designate

c. £10,000

A very profitable engineering company with a strong export orientation requires a Finance Director Designate. The company is part of a larger publicly quoted group and the successful applicant will also act as Deputy Group Controller. The post covers all aspects of both financial and cost accounting and also management information systems. Candidates, male or female, should be

qualified accountants aged 28 to 35 who have had at least two years' management experience in industry. They should be capable of joining the management team and contributing to the overall running of the business. Salary is negotiable around £10,000 plus car. Location: Banbury. Generous contribution towards any removal costs. Ref: AA34/899/FT.

## Senior Personnel Executive

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Ernst and Whinney, international accountants, operate in the Middle East, in the Gulf States, Saudi Arabia and Iran. This new position carries responsibility for all recruiting in the UK of qualified personnel for service in the Middle East; for advising the Middle East Partnership in all personnel matters and for developing and improving the Partnership's personnel systems and

procedures particularly in management development and career planning. Frequent overseas travel from a London base is involved. Candidates, ideally aged around 40, should have wide personnel experience, including graduate/professional recruitment, and part of that experience, at least, must have been in expatriate postings. Ref: AA9/8984/FT.

Initial interviews are conducted by PA Consultants. No details are divulged to clients without prior permission. Please send brief career details or write for an application form, quoting the reference number on both your letter and envelope, and advise us if you have recently made any other applications to PA Personnel Services.

**PA Personnel Services**

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE. Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

**PA**

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## International Audit

\$27,000-\$35,000

Europe

Our clients are a major USA industrial corporation with a record of continued growth - a high technology organisation with wide international interests.

A high grade accountant is required for financial/operational audit work at senior level. The selected candidate will report to the European Audit Manager, located in Brussels, which is the preferred base for this position. Travel will be extensive, mainly in Europe and there will be opportunity to visit the USA.

Candidates aged 25-35, must be qualified accountants, fluent in English, proficient in one other major European language, and be capable of working independently and of progressing into financial management. Audit or accounting experience with international public accountants or a major international corporation is essential. Salary is negotiable according to experience. Generous living expenses are provided.

Please write or telephone to D. G. Muggersidge (Ref. 6422).

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## GROUP MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

**The Client** A soundly based U.K. quoted manufacturing group with diverse trading interests both at home and overseas and well placed for further growth. Turnover is in excess of £100 million.

**The Job** Reporting to the Group Financial Controller this is a new appointment and has been created to further strengthen financial control within the group. Initial emphasis will be on reviewing and upgrading accounting and management information systems. Thereafter there will be increasing involvement in an advisory and interpretative role in assisting local management in improving operating efficiency and profitability. There are good prospects for advancement within the operating subsidiaries of the group in due course.

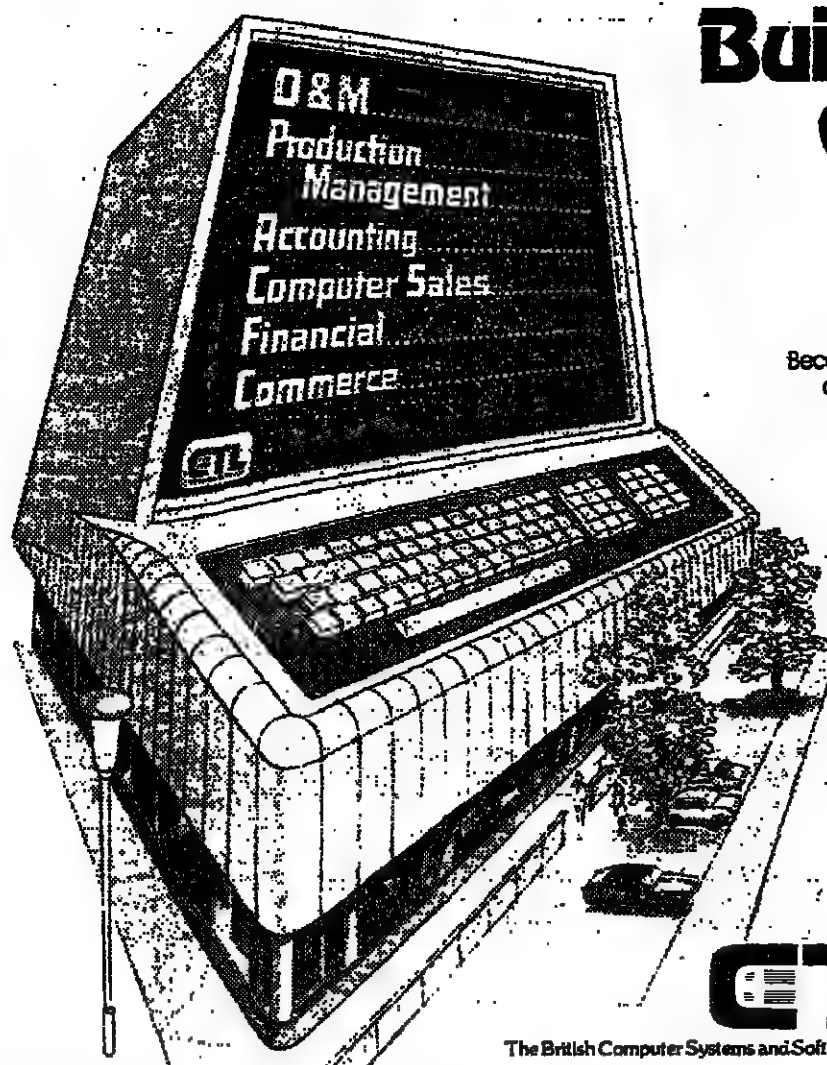
**The Candidate** A qualified accountant, used to working on his or her own initiative, with substantial management accounting and systems development experience. Some travel within the U.K. and overseas will be involved. Experience in an engineering environment would be an advantage.

Brief but comprehensive details of career and salary to date, which will be treated in confidence, should be sent to J. G. Cameron, Executive Selection Division, Ref. C395 at the address below. Please include a daytime telephone number at which you may be contacted.

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Tel. Hemel Hempstead (0442) 5272.

**CTL**

The British Computer Systems and Software Company

## Business Analyst

North London

c. £9,000

Our Client is one of the world's largest and fastest growing telecommunications groups.

They are currently developing a new product marketing department and seek an Analyst whose principal function will be to examine the financial and economic factors influencing the company's pricing structure and policies.

You will be asked to develop strategies which will enable margins to be increased and the company to take advantage of economic changes within the pricing criteria.

Ideally a qualified Accountant aged 25-35 you should have some years related analytical experience in a multi-national environment.

Essential personal qualities required in this challenging organisation include self-motivation, high ambition and an enquiring intellect.

Exceptional career opportunities are matched only by an overall benefits package which includes generous re-location expenses if required.

Applications are invited from men and women, in writing or by telephone, to Michael J. R. Chapman, quoting Ref. 2500.

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## Director and General Manager

YORKSHIRE

to £20,000 + car

Our Client, part of a large International Group, is a medium sized Company supplying high value capital plant and equipment to a variety of industries worldwide. Customers range from small private companies through municipal authorities to nationalised industries.

The Director will be responsible to the UK Chief Executive for the design, development and profitable sale of his division's products. Manufacturing facilities are shared with another division and the development of a close relationship with production and allied services is essential. In addition, the successful applicant will have direct responsibility for the management and control of a separate manufacturing unit which acts both as a sub contractor to the main production area and also produces its own range of specialised equipment.

The Company operates within a well formulated business, planning and financial control system covering annual budgets and long range sales and product forecasts.

Applicants, aged 35-45, must be graduate mechanical engineers and have senior management responsibility for engineering or manufacturing with a highly numerate and commercial/marketing bias. Alternatively, experience as General Manager level in a capital plant manufacturing operation would be appropriate. Career prospects are excellent.

REWARDS: Salary is negotiable c.£16,000 plus substantial performance related bonus, company car and an excellent range of benefits including relocation assistance where necessary.

Applicants of either sex apply in confidence. Ref. AE742

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Recruitment and Selection Consultants

## Finance Director

Public Company

Around £20,000

### The Business

Vertically integrated from design through to retail distribution, fast moving but with a quality bias.

### This Appointment

Executive responsibility to the Board for the complete finance function including advanced DP facilities. In addition a major contribution will be expected towards the consolidation of growth and the control and direction of the achievement of the company's business potential.

### The Candidate

Emphasis in selection will be towards range of experience, maturity and commercial judgement and applications are invited from qualified accountants aged c. 40 upwards.

### The Remuneration

Salary and profit share around £20,000 plus car, pension etc.

Please write quoting reference FJ117/FT to the company's advisers

**R. J. SILVER & ASSOCIATES LIMITED**

Management and Recruitment Consultants,

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## COMMODITIES WRITER

Another journalist is required for Big Farm Weekly, the young and successful quality tabloid newspaper circulating to farmers at the top end of the farm market.

Internal promotion has created a vacancy for a commodities writer. The position would suit a young journalist with experience of writing for the farming or food industries, and with an interest in livestock marketing.

The job will involve some travel, mainly within the UK, covering auction sales and other events in the livestock and meat industries. However, it is not merely a reporting position. The person appointed will need to help maintain and extend the paper's reputation for identifying and analysing changing trends in the industry.

Salary in accordance with NUJ rates (subject to review), 4 weeks holiday, rising to 5 weeks after 5 years.

Applications to:

Derek Fraser, Editor,  
Big Farm Weekly, Thomson Magazines Ltd.,  
Northwood House, 93-99 Goswell Road,  
London EC1V 7QA (01-253 9355)

## COMMERCIAL LENDING OFFICER

Major U.S. International Bank with long established operations in the United Kingdom seeks commercial lending officers for its U.K. Corporate Division.

Candidates, aged 30-40, will have practical lending experience in a line position. Successful candidates will be involved with servicing existing corporate customers and new business development, marketing the Bank's wide range of services. Candidates must be self starters and have the ability to deal at senior corporate level. Starting salary negotiable above £11,000 per annum.

Applications in strict confidence to Box RD 5267, Eitel Recruitment, 4 Bouverie Street, London, EC4. The names of any banks to whom the application should not be forwarded should be clearly printed on the back of the envelope. The client bank will reply to those applicants who are required for interview within seven days of receiving their application.

## COMPUTER SYSTEMS AUDITOR

Crawley, Sussex c. £11,000 + Car

A unique opportunity to control a small team providing a vital service to financial and general management through the continuous upgrading and audit of all business systems operated by a major international contractor as part of a UK public group. Preference will be given to professional accountants and relocation expenses are available.

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Personnel Resources Limited 01-248 6321

Financial Appointments Hillgate House, Old Bally, London EC4M 7HS

## COTTON AND ALLIED TEXTILES INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD

## Chief Executive MANCHESTER BASED

Applications are invited for a successor to the Board's present Chief Executive, Geoffrey Jolly, in preparation for his retirement.

The Board's nationwide services cover 150,000 people in sectors of the cotton and allied textiles industry engaged in such activities as spinning, weaving, finishing, narrow fabrics, surgical dressings, asbestos, waste processing and converting.

The Chief Executive advises the Board, implements its policies and directs its training and administration staff. Working closely with the Chairman, the Chief Executive also represents the Board at top official level with the industry's organisations, the Manpower Services Commission and other Government bodies. Considerable travel is involved to keep in touch with all sectors of the industry.

Candidates should have substantial managerial experience at a senior level in industry, training boards or the public sector. Textile knowledge and experience would be of considerable advantage.

A substantial salary will be negotiated according to age and experience. A car is provided and there is a contributory pension scheme. Assistance with relocation expenses will be available if necessary.

Please write, in complete confidence, giving details of qualifications, career and salary, to the Chairman: J. M. H. Grey, Cotton and Allied Textiles ITB, Sunlight House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3PL.

## Phillips & Drew International Economist

We have a vacancy in our Economic research section for an international economist who will specialise in forecasting developments in the Far Eastern economies. Applicants should have at least two years' experience preferably in a financial or forecasting environment. Fluency in English is essential, and a working knowledge of Japanese would be a decided advantage. The successful candidate will join an economic and corporate research team with a high reputation in the City and in Industry. Remuneration is competitive and there is scope for rapid advancement combined with overseas travel. There are profit sharing schemes, pension fund and other benefits.

Please send a brief curriculum vitae and apply to  
A. G. Wright, Staff Manager,

**Phillips & Drew**

Lee House, London Wall, London EC2Y 5AP

## LOANS OFFICER

Age 28-38

c£12,000

A major International Bank, among the world's top 100, seeks to appoint a fully-experienced Banker to the above position. The job, reporting to a senior Vice President, is essentially a marketing function, involving the implementation of a comprehensive visiting programme, and the development of large-scale business therefrom. Additionally, the appointee will be expected to maintain a close liaison with existing accounts.

Candidates should have a sound background from within International Banking, and have previous experience of marketing. Possession of the Banker's Diploma is mandatory.

Outstanding prospects for personal development, and the Bank offers a comprehensive benefits package including bonus.

please telephone, in confidence, Mark Stevens

**BANKING PERSONNEL**

41/42 London Wall-London EC2 Telephone: 01-588 0781

(RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS)

مكتبة النخيل



## Executive Director Business Promotion for The International Group, incorporating Dominion Shippers Limited

and providing  
International and Domestic trade finance  
Installment credit facilities, including hire purchase, leasing and block  
discounting facilities  
Financial services including:  
Corporate finance services and insurance broking

Responsibilities will include:

1. Development of existing and new territories, in particular the United Kingdom;
2. Monitoring of clientele directly and through overseas offices and representatives; and
3. Assessment of new facilities.

The successful candidate would have:

- i. Experience of international and domestic trade finance and procedures probably acquired in a merchant bank, confirming house or international trading company;
- ii. The ability to mix with and assess people of varying nationalities and backgrounds;
- iii. Willingness to travel; and
- iv. Training and/or qualification in accounting, banking or law.

Preferred age bracket: 30-45 years.  
Package offered is an attractive salary, which will be negotiable according to experience, etc., together with a company car, non-contributory pension scheme, BUPA, etc.

Replies with curriculum vitae will be treated in strictest confidence and should be sent to:

B. Giddin Esq., Director, Dominion Shippers Limited,  
Hilton House, 161-166 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2DY.

## INSTITUTIONAL OIL SPECIALIST

FIELDING, NEWSON-SMITH & CO.

have a vacancy for an individual to take responsibility for servicing their institutional clients on oil industry investments — an area where the firm has a well established research base.

The successful candidate will be experienced in institutional investment or financial journalism, or come directly from the oil industry.

Remuneration will be based on qualifications and experience and will consist of a basic salary, together with a participation in the firm's profits.

Applications, which will be treated in strictest confidence, should be sent, with a curriculum vitae, to the Administrative Partner, Fielding Newson-Smith & Co., 31 Gresham Street, London EC3V 7DX.

## INVESTMENT BANKERS

Further your career by joining this leading international bank. You should be a graduate in economics or similar and have at least one year's relevant experience. You will be expected to become involved in all aspects of the work in hand and be able to expand your expertise, where necessary, in new marketing techniques.

Age 22+ Salary £5,000 neg.

For further details call:  
Mike Blundell Jones  
025 4351  
PORTMAN RECRUITMENT SERVICES

## Harvard Appointments Limited

### INTERNATIONAL TROUBLESHOOTERS

based LONDON

c.£10,000

The SmithKline Corporation is one of the top 500 U.S. companies and currently features in Fortune magazine as the 7th most profitable organisation in America.

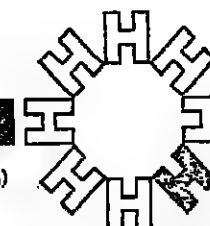
European profitability will shortly be monitored from a new office in Central London and creates a requirement for 2 young qualified ACA/CA/ACCA's aged 24-28, of proven excellence, preferably with a basic understanding of French or German.

Only candidates considered to be very promotable will be shortlisted for interview.

Please contact:

GEORGE D. MAXWELL  
Managing Director.

235 Finchley Road London NW3 6LS Telephone 01-794 0124 (24 hrs)



## Chief Accountant

Audit & investigation in a key area of expenditure

£8265-£12270 - London

The farming and allied industries today represent an increasingly complex area of financial administration. EEC regulations, world pricing trends and a wide range of general economic factors combine to create a demanding accounting environment subject to rapid change and development.

The Chief Accountant will personally undertake important assignments and will be responsible for controlling the work of professional and executive staff engaged in some of the following areas: audit and review of systems and controls in grant-aided bodies and agencies; the internal audit of the Ministry's direct trading operations; the investigation of financial viability of companies or organisations seeking financial assistance; provision of professional advice on a wide range of accountancy matters.

This post has been exempted from the Government's ban on recruitment.

Candidates, who should normally be aged at

least 35, must be Chartered, Certified, Cost and Management, or Public Finance Accountants with at least 2-3 years' post-qualification experience in audit and investigation work and in the management of professional staff. They must also have the ability to conduct negotiations with outside bodies as well as with colleagues in the Civil Service and an up-to-date knowledge of accountancy matters, preferably including experience of financial appraisals and taxation.

Starting salary, according to qualifications and experience, within the range £8265-£10,475; to become £9,370-£12,270 on 1.1.80. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further information and an application form (to be returned by August 16, 1979) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68531 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/5189/3.

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

## Business Planning Manager

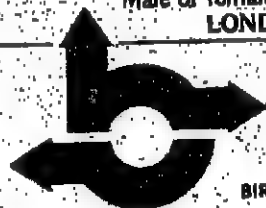
East European Pricing  
London, to £10,500 + car

The opportunity here is to influence business in the "Comecon" markets and will appeal to the young corporate planning or price strategist seeking a wider role within a small, self responsible structure. The client is a multinational manufacturer and distributor of office equipment and supplies. Areas of responsibility will include, in each of the East European countries their particular pricing strategy, assessment of their markets and

an understanding of various counter trading situations. More important still will be the co-ordination and control of the operating companies planning and pricing activities. Applicants will ideally be graduates, aged about 30 years, with a background in marketing and/or business planning in a multinational environment. Prospects and benefits are excellent and the vacancy has arisen as the result of promotion.

N.P.S. Lilley, Ref: 22152/FT.

Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a Personal History Form to:  
LONDON: 01-734 6852, Sutherland House, 5/6 Argyle Street, W1E 6EZ.



**Hoggett Bowers**  
Executive Selection Consultants

BIRMINGHAM, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE and SHEFFIELD.

## Assistant — Company Secretary's Office

BP Oil Limited, BP's UK marketing and refining subsidiary, requires an Assistant for its Company Secretary's branch. This branch is comprised of the Assistant Secretary and two assistants and services the interests of the BP Oil Group in over 70 subsidiary and associated companies.

Reporting direct to the Assistant Secretary, the successful applicant will undertake a wide range of duties for which a detailed and comprehensive knowledge of UK Company Law and corporate secretarial practice is necessary. It is also desirable that applicants should be familiar with the requirements both of The Stock Exchange in relation to listed companies and of The City Code on Take-Overs and Mergers.

Applicants, aged 24-32, should be Chartered Secretaries or possibly Solicitors or Barristers, with 2-3 years' experience at a relatively senior level in the Company Secretary's Department of a medium or large sized company with several subsidiary and associated companies and in particular have knowledge of company formation and acquisition procedures.

Career development prospects lie within the BP Group. Starting salary is negotiable but will be of interest to those currently earning £7500 - £8000. Excellent benefits include London Allowance, non-contributory pension scheme, subsidised lunches, re-location expenses where appropriate.

Please write giving brief details of age, qualifications and experience to: C. J. L. Metcalfe, Manager, Recruitment Branch, BP Oil Limited, BP House, Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SN.



BP Oil

## FINANCIAL MANAGER— SAUDI ARABIA

Exceptional opportunity for an experienced Financial Manager to join the management team of a newly established international joint venture company in Riyadh.

Must have appropriate qualifications and experience in accounting and financial management, preferably with some overseas experience. Salary in the region of £17,500 per annum, tax free, with all usual benefits including free accommodation, car and six weeks leave per annum. Initially, bachelor status required.

Replies with c.v. to:

P.O. Box 163, London WC1 6LUV

## BANKING OFFICER EUROPE

A leading international bank has a position for an officer or a potential officer located in Europe and to be assigned to international relationships. A knowledge of the securities industry is highly desirable. The successful candidate will be required to have English as a working language and facility in French and German will be desirable.

Replies to Universal Media, chaussee de La Hulpe 122, at 1050 Brussels, Belgium under ref. 146 which will transmit.

## STOCKBROKERS Private Client Department

We are a leading firm of Stockbrokers with a widely diversified business. We have a vacancy for a person to work in the Private Client Department and assist the Partners in general portfolio Management.

Applicants should be in the 20-27 age group with reasonable broking experience. An ability to think and write clearly is important since the position involves regular contact with clients both by telephone and letter. There is considerable scope for initiative and good prospects for promotion. There will be a fully competitive salary and bonus and pleasant working conditions in a modern office.

Applicants should submit full c.v. in confidence to—

Walter Judd Limited (Ref: L218)  
(Incorporated Practitioners in Advertising)  
1a Bow Lane, London EC4M 9EJ

Indicating the names of any Companies to whom you do not wish your reply to be sent. If the list indicates the Company involved, your application will be destroyed.

## American Express International Banking Group FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEALERS

Due to expansion, we are seeking Dealers with at least two-three years' experience in International Money and Foreign Exchange markets.

He/she will currently be working within a large Dealing environment, but anxious to seek a more demanding role with increased responsibility and a progressive career path.

Applicants should possess drive, ambition and enthusiasm and be receptive to the idea of relocating to any of our offices throughout Europe. A knowledge of German and/or French is desirable.

Excellent salary and the usual Bank fringe benefits.

Please apply in writing to:

Mr. E. J. Ralphs, Manager—Personnel  
AMERICAN EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION,  
130 Moorgate, London EC2P 2JY

## DEPOSIT DEALER

Luxembourg

Applicants will have a longstanding experience in the deposit market with a leading international bank, enabling them possibly, sometime in the future, to take over the responsibility of chief dealer.

Please send your curriculum vitae in full confidence to:

LANDESBANK STUTTGART  
INTERNATIONAL  
1 Place d'Armes, Luxembourg  
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

## UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA

Applications are invited for the BANK OF ZAMBIA CHAIR IN FINANCIAL ECONOMICS. This is a major appointment to be held by a scholar of international prominence. The Chair-holder will be expected to conduct research related to the Zambian economy, to participate in the teaching programme of the Economics Department and to give one public lecture annually on a topic related to financial, economic and/or the Zambian economy. The appointment will be for two years or a renewable basis. Salary scale: K12,500 pa (21 - starting) to K17,500 pa (25 - starting) plus housing allowance, housing, gratuity, home leave, financial support for research. Detailed applications (2 copies) with curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees to be sent direct to the Registrar, University of Zambia, P.O. Box 2278, Lusaka, Zambia, by August 24, 1979. Applicants resident in the UK should also send one copy to International University Council, 50/51, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further details may be obtained from either address.

## General Manager (Business Development)

Substantial package

Middle East

For a rapidly expanding trading and construction company engaged in building, and the supply of heavy equipment, plant, vehicles and building materials. The General Manager will be responsible to the Board for the identification, analysis and successful implementations of new business opportunities, and for development plans. Primary requirements are a flexible and creative outlook, commercial acumen, and negotiating ability. Familiarity with tendering procedures is essential, and knowledge of international material sourcing valuable. A generous remuneration package and renewable contract to suit the individual will be negotiated, and for the right man money will not be a bar. There are excellent prospects to grow with the company.

Replies by telephone or letter to Gerald Brown (Ref. 6427).



**Mervyn Hughes Group**  
2/3 Cursitor Street, London EC4A 1NE  
Management Recruitment Consultants

01-404 5801

## QS BANKING RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

American Bank requires

CHIEF DEALER

aged 32+

Salary negotiable to £18,000

Please telephone:

Sheila Ankettell-Jones  
or Mike Pope  
236 0731

30-31, Queen Street, EC4.

## Mike Pope Management Appointments

\$ CD Brokers	L/A and Commercial Manager
FX Broker (Middle East)	Senior Institutional Broker
Broker (Far East)	Senior Interbank Brokers
Senior Currency Deposit Brokers	Commercial Brokers
FX Broker (French/German)	L/A Brokers
Senior Spot Dealers (French)	

Telephone Mike Pope 236-0731

30-31 Queen Street EC4



## Financial Director

North East, Salary £13,500+ car.

This highly successful company is the international market leader in its sector of the chemical industry. Employing around 900 people, with present turnover exceeding £35m it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of a major publicly-quoted British Group. Reporting to the Managing Director, the Financial Director will take full responsibility for the control and development of the finance and administration functions. Re-organisation in the UK and worldwide expansion has created the need for further sophistication of financial systems and procedures. The immediate financial

department contains some 30 people. Key tasks will include participation in general business management and involvement in further computerisation plans as well as the provision of financial information and reporting systems. Aged 29-35, candidates will have a good degree and be Chartered Accountants. Broad financial management experience will have been gained, ideally, in a large manufacturing environment. Group prospects are excellent and benefits which include relocation aid are of a standard associated with a senior appointment.

G.E. Forester, Ref: 18223/FT.

Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a Personal History Form to:  
LONDON: 01-734 6852, Sutherland House, 5/6 Argyll Street, W1E 6EZ.

### Hoggett Bowers

Executive Selection Consultants

BIRMINGHAM, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE and SHEFFIELD.

## EUROPEAN AUDIT MANAGEMENT

Hamburg, W. Germany.

c. DM100,000 p.a. + Car and other benefits

Our client is a major oil based industrial group which has diverse subsidiaries with broad interests in engineering, retailing and shipping.

The company has established a Group Audit Department which will exert a positive and constructive influence by providing Chief Executives and Group Management with objective assessments and recommendations on systems and controls within the operations for which they are responsible. The Group plans to appoint a European Audit Manager, based in Hamburg who will be responsible to the Group Chief Auditor for programme planning, controlling audit projects in Western Europe and agreeing recommendations with line management. Frequent travel to Group locations in Europe is an essential feature of this appointment.

Applicants must be qualified accountants with experience in a large professional practice or commercial organisation, and have a sound knowledge of German. It is essential that candidates have the personal authority to communicate effectively with Senior Management and to be able to convince them of their professional expertise.

This range of activities allied to contact with Senior Management should provide considerable opportunity for career development either into line management or other positions in any of the Group Companies. There will not be any "career internal auditors".

For further information and a personal history form, please contact Robin F. Taylor, B.A., C.A. or Nigel V. Smith, A.C.A. quoting reference 2554.

Commercial/Industrial Division  
Douglas Lumb Associates Ltd.  
Accountancy & Management Recruitment Consultants  
110, Strand, London WC2R 0NS Tel: 01-636 9601  
121, St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HW Tel: 041-226 3101  
3, Coates Place, Edinburgh EH3 7AA Tel: 031-228 7744



# CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH

Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576

Telex No. 887374



LONDON

## BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST

£10,000 PLUS

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANY

Our Client has an excellent opportunity for a Business Analyst who is required, as part of a team, to make a systems study of a complete manufacturing and marketing operation. This study is related to the introduction of completely new computer based systems using the latest technology of database, distributed processing and on-line systems. While degree/BA level qualifications are desired, together with a knowledge of computer based systems, the fundamental requirement is for a free thinker of high intellect who can both analyse detail and gain an overview of a large scale operation. Initiative, good communication skills and the ability to work without close supervision are other important factors of this position. It is unlikely that someone under 30 years will have the necessary breadth of experience required for this type of work. Previous experience gained in a management consultancy, or oil industry environment, would be an added advantage. Excellent benefits include first class pension scheme and accident insurance cover. Applications in strict confidence under reference SSA 11468/FT will be forwarded unopened to our Client, unless you list companies to which they should not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING LIMITED, 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH

## Acquisitions Executive

The purpose of this appointment is to spearhead expansion by acquisition at home and abroad. Practical experience of acquisitions, mergers and share valuations is essential, preferably industry based. The successful candidate is likely to have a financial background, and will join a small department responsible for the initial identification of possible acquisitions and financial appraisal thereof. There is a

possibility of working in the U.S.A. for a period if mutually agreeable.

A competitive salary will be paid plus pension scheme, life assurance and other benefits in accordance with the best industrial practice. A company car will be provided.

Please write stating qualifications, full career details and salary progression to:

Head of Personnel,  
Marley The Company Limited,  
P.O. Box 33, Sevenoaks, Kent.

### MARLEY

## FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE)

SOUTH LONDON c.£11,000+car+profit sharing

for fast growing subsidiary of successful public company in market research and publishing fields.

Major responsibilities will include management accounting, budgetary control, advice to board on all financial matters and management of accounts and administration departments.

A qualified accountant is required, probably 28-38, with some commercial and management experience and the capacity to work in an expanding, marketing orientated organisation. will become a key member of a young management team with strategic planning as well as financial management and advisory responsibilities. This is a demanding role with additional involvement in daily accounting and administration activities.

Benefits include attractive salary and car, pension, insurance, BUPA and directors' profit sharing scheme.

For further details and personal history form please telephone John Cooke on 01-390 2776 (24hr. ansafone service)



Cooke and Burns (personnel services) Ltd.  
41a Brighton Rd. Surbiton Surrey KT6 5LR

MANAGEMENT SELECTION CONSULTANTS

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Motorola Limited, manufacturers of quality in-car entertainment products, wish to appoint a Financial Controller to be based at Stotfold, near Hitchin on the Herts/Beds border.

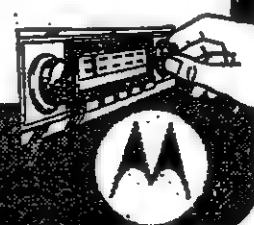
The appointee will be responsible for all financial aspects of the Automotive Products Divisions' activities within the U.K. and will be a member of the company's senior management team.

To fill this key position, we seek a qualified Accountant with a broad accounting background at senior management level. In addition, experience or working for a multi-national company would be an added advantage.

A highly competitive salary and benefits package including a car, will be offered.

All interested applicants should send full details or write or telephone for an application form to:  
Michael Stein, Personnel Manager,  
MOTOROLA LIMITED,  
Taylors Road,  
Stotfold, Hitchin, Herts.  
Tel: Hitchin (0462) 730661.

MOTOROLA  
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS  
DIVISION



## Strategic Planning

Our client, a £100m British Group, is developing fast. Major capital investment is in hand, new products are being introduced and new markets explored. The identification, planning and evaluation of specific business opportunities is carried out by a small and high calibre team reporting through the Chief Planning Executive to the Group Finance Director.

An additional member is required for this team. He or she will carry out specific investigations, normally working alone and on a project basis with managing directors of the subsidiary companies, to quantify new ventures for the Group at home and

abroad. This exposure is high and is intended for the successful candidate will follow previous members of the team into senior line management positions in the subsidiaries.

Promotion prospects are therefore excellent.

Candidates, preferably Business Graduates, will be versatile and have had exposure in a manufacturing environment, with some management involvement, and have marketing experience. Please send full details to Peter Raynes, quoting reference 0742, or, if you would prefer to complete a form, telephone Guildford (0483) 67761 (24 hour service).

PETER COUNSEL limited  
Executive Recruitment

The White House, 8 High Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5AA

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

HONG KONG

EQUIVALENT £10,000

TAX FREE + ACCOMMODATION

DHL International is a rapidly expanding group specialising in data communications between the world's business centres. The Hong Kong company has responsibility for a number of locations in the Far East and South East Asia and now seeks a regional financial controller to be responsible to the managing director.

The successful candidate will control the entire accounting and finance functions for these locations, including budgetary and cash control, the preparation of management information, ad hoc studies, and the development and integration of systems which are at present manual but will be computerised as part of a world wide program to meet our data processing requirements.

Candidates should be qualified accountants aged 25-35, with experience in a fast moving entrepreneurial situation. Considerable travel is envisaged. Salary equivalent to £10,000 p.a. tax free and free accommodation will be provided.

Applicants should write in complete confidence with full details of previous experience and current salary to A. G. Harris, DHL International Limited, DHL House, Great West Road, London W4 5QR.

## Securities Clerk

As one of the major American international banks our European Headquarters are based in London. Primary activities in the UK are in the commercial and merchant banking sectors.

We require a Clerk in our Securities Department to handle clearance of, and account for, multi-currency transactions, including Euro CD's, International Stocks, Shares and Currency Deposits, undertaken by customers of our Investment Department.

Candidates should have several years' experience in Securities and have acquired knowledge of portfolio valuations and custodian accounting preferably within an International or Merchant Bank.

In addition to a competitive salary, fringe benefits include mortgage and personal loans at reduced rates of interest, non-contributory pension scheme and subsidised restaurant.

Please send detailed c.v. or telephone for an application form to: Ann Forde-Tuplin, Personnel Department, Continental Illinois Corporation, Commercial Bank House, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4A 3TD. Tel: 01-236 7444.



CONTINENTAL BANK

Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co. of Chicago

## WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES GENEVA

### QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

This position carries responsibility, under the Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration, for the complete accounting function, including the continuing development and control of a new computerised accounting system, the preparation of annual accounts, and the operation of a budgetary control system.

Applicants, who should be qualified accountants, should preferably have active involvement in the Christian Church in addition to professional qualifications and wide experience. Knowledge of French an advantage.

Applications or enquiries should be sent before August 31, 1979, to: Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration, World Council of Churches, 23 route de France, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

## DREXEL BURNHAM LAMBERT INCORPORATED

International Bonds

We wish to further expand our International Bond Sales and Trading Department by the appointment of additional personnel.

The successful applicants will be given every opportunity and support to develop further our business worldwide but need to have had some experience of fixed interest markets and be self-motivating.

Salary is negotiable with full consideration given for experience, ability and success. An important package of fringe benefits is also available. Please apply in confidence to:-

Roger Jaspe.

Senior Executive Vice-President,  
Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated,  
Winchester House, 77 London Wall,  
London EC2N 1BE.

BRIGHTON POLYTECHNIC

DEPT. OF MATHEMATICS

LECTURER II/

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Applications are invited for the above post from good Honours graduates who have experience in Operational Research. In particular, the person appointed will be required to assist in the development and projection of new undergraduate course material in the Operational Research area. Encouragement will be given to research and consultancy activity.

Salary:

Lecturer II ..... £4,470-£7,149

Senior Lecturer ..... £6,597-£8,253

Application forms and further details from Personnel Officer, Brighton Polytechnic, Moulsecomb, Brighton BN2 4AT. Tel: Brighton 693655 Ext. 2537.

Closing date: August 31, 1979

## EARN £8,000 P.A. TO £25,000 PLUS

A leading firm of investment and taxation advisers require additional Consultants for their London, Birmingham and Manchester Offices. Successful applicants will have the necessary experience, initiative, ability and knowledge of a wide range of attractive investment plans, which are prepared by an expert professional back-up team. Personality, intelligence, enthusiasm and the ability to work hard are the essential requirements. Technical training will be provided initially side-by-side with an experienced adviser. A generous highly paid and exciting career is offered. Write enclosing curriculum vitae, CV and telephone number. Prompt reply and confidentiality guaranteed. TO: TEN-EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT, 6, W. HALL, SW1X 0JL, SW1X 0JL

## HENRY COOKE, LUMSDEN & CO.

Research

The Manchester Office has vacancies for:

An Institutional Analyst to investigate in depth equity investment situations not confined to a particular sector. Sound analytical experience and judgement, personal initiative and the ability to communicate effectively are essential.

An Assistant Analyst to help service Private Client Departments with investment recommendations. Previous investment experience, while useful, is less important than numeracy and an ability to give concise expression to investment ideas.

Please apply in writing, giving curriculum vitae, to:

M. J. Brown, Esq.  
HENRY COOKE, LUMSDEN & CO.  
P.O. Box 389  
Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens  
Manchester, M20 3AH

هكذامن الأصل



# Stockbroking

## An exceptional opportunity in the electrical sector

A well known research orientated firm of stockbrokers are offering a position for an experienced analyst to head their electrical specialisation. The specialisation in question has been established for a number of years and has a good track record. The appointment offers very good prospects to the right applicant and the remuneration will be very competitive.

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Please write, with brief career details to David Macmillan, Personnel Advertising Limited, 22 Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4PX. All replies will be sent to our office unless we are instructed otherwise. Please quote ref. 555 552.

## Managing Director UK Offshore Drilling Company

Jebsons, the international shipping group, is looking for a Managing Director to run its expanding offshore drilling operations based in the UK.

Jebsons Drilling Limited, the UK company which is based in Aberdeen, owns and operates two Ocean Voyager type semi-submersible rigs Aladdin and Sindbad Saxon, both of which are working in the North Sea.

The successful candidate will have had senior management experience in offshore drilling together with a strong marketing background and be well known and respected in the oil industry. The role of the person appointed will be to operate, expand and develop the UK company on an international basis. The appointment offers excellent prospects.

Salary conditions and benefits will be commensurate with the importance of this position.

All enquiries should be addressed to:  
M. J. W. Lofting, 19 South Audley Street,  
London W1Y 5DN.



# JEBSENS

## Advertisement Representative

London £6000 + Car

A leading weekly professional publication, part of a very successful international publishing group, needs a first class sales representative to join its display advertisement department. This vacancy arises from the success engendered in the market by the existing team and as such the successful candidate will enjoy working in a professional and expanding environment.

You will have a proven track record in sales and be able to demonstrate your potential for sales management. Your determination to be successful and pursue a publishing career will be evident in your personal presentation at the interview.

A good basic salary, realistic commission terms and company maintained motor car is the initial package and after a successful period you can expect to be considered for further rewards.

Free life insurance, company pension scheme and four weeks holiday are among the many additional benefits of this major publishing group.

Please write with full career details to Position No. ACA 7435, Anstin Knight Ltd, London W1A 1DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Position Number Supervisor.

AK ADVERTISING

## ACCOUNTANT

### BERMUDA

Ref. 41457

Major Insurance Group Accountant for their Bermuda office. Excellent conditions of service. Age group 25 to 35.

Salary \$18,500 per annum.

Please telephone in confidence:

THOMAS M. JAMES

I.P.S. GROUP

requires a Chartered (Employment Consultants) 01-481 8111

### MERCHANT BANK

## SENIOR SECRETARY

to work for a young director. You should have an excellent standard of education and impeccable skills. This is a demanding situation requiring a blend of flair and initiative. The usual banking conditions apply, inclusive of mortgage, season ticket loan, etc.

Age 35+ £5,000 neg.

Please call Colette Davis 439 6351

PORTMAN RECRUITMENT SERVICES

## Financial Controller

City to £14,000

For the autonomous subsidiary of a leading US insurance company.

Reporting to the chief executive and general manager, the successful candidate will be responsible for the financial function of this well established operation.

Candidates, preferably 27 to 35, must be chartered accountants, with proven experience at a senior level in the insurance industry, and a knowledge of all appropriate regulatory procedures. EDP experience is required.

There is an attractive benefit package.

For an application form, write in confidence showing how you meet the specification and quoting reference 3034/L to J. H. Cobb, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Executive Selection Division,

165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London, EC4V 3PD.  
Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

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Thursday July 26 1979

## An adviser in the right

MRS. THATCHER has been remarkably quick to disown her adviser, Professor Douglas Hague, who suggested earlier this week that the Government should not in equity leave tax relief on mortgages—a "tax expenditure" in the language of the Treasury—out of its long-term review of public spending. While it is true that her denial, in response to a question from Mr. Callaghan, was in terms which left room for alteration rather than abolition of the existing relief, it was in language firm enough to make it clear that this remains a special case. It should not be so.

## Warning sign

This is in fact the second time that the Government has shown that its apparently consistent principles stop somewhere short of the housing market. The panic over mortgage interest rates, which made such a sad impression in the City, was a clear warning sign. This is not just a matter of consistency, however. Housing policy has for decades been an area in which both parties have sacrificed economic sense to political expediency, with damaging results.

The issue of equity raised by Professor Hague is politically significant, since if public sector subsidies are to be attacked—as they should be, in the right context—tax relief to the private sector should not be immune. One-sided cuts offer too strong a slogan to those who preach the politics of envy, although, ironically, a Labour Government under pressure can sometimes get away with such measures. However, the real case for a radical housing review is economic.

The great economic inequity is not between the public and the private sector, but between owner-occupation and renting. The reason is simply that while the owner enjoys the benefits of occupation tax-free, the tenant must buy them out of taxed income. As a result, the owner-occupier can always outbid would-be landlords in the property market.

It is this which explains the virtual disappearance of the private rented sector in this country since the war. Before the war the imputed benefit of

occupation was taxed under Schedule A. Private renting flourished in spite of some rent controls left over from 1919. After the war Schedule A was first collected on the basis of pre-war money values, so that rising repair costs (which were deductible) eroded the net revenue, and ultimately the tax was abolished. Renting became, and has remained, uncompetitive. Even in the public sector, where rents are based on the historic cost rather than the current values of the housing stock, "economic" charges are beginning to be quite forbidding in some areas.

This decline of the rented sector has been viewed in Britain with complacency, and explained away as a response to the public demand for ownership, and thus somehow virtuous. It is in fact the result of straightforward fiscal distortion, and its economic cost is heavy. The mobility of skilled people and managers is impeded, and an inflating housing market has become far the most effective way to amass personal capital—at the expense both of productive investment and of the real value of savings. Our reward is a housing stock worthy of a much richer country; but the productive cost has been heavy.

These distortions are much milder in countries where occupation is realistically taxed, as in much of Europe and the U.S., though sheer inflation can produce similar troubles. An active housing market helps the economic progress. Disallowance of interest in a rough-and-ready equivalent of a value-based tax.

## Injustice

Sensible policies could not be adopted in this country overnight without severe injustice to those who have invested in the distorted money values resulting from our present regime; but over a period of years could be made relatively painless—and in this respect persistent inflation is actually helpful, since it steadily lightens the real burden of housing debt. Certainly these questions should be faced rather than brushed aside.

## Another step in Sinai

YESTERDAY Egypt regained another slice of Sinai in precise conformity with the schedule laid down in the peace treaty signed in March. In this respect, at least, the implementation of the pact has gone smoothly so while the related negotiations on autonomy for the Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have not progressed beyond procedural matters to substantive issues. The Israeli pull-back from a swathe of territory running from the north of the peninsula to a point on the Gulf of Suez follows the hand-over of El Arish last month and is the second of five that should give Egypt back the greater part of Sinai by next January, including a number of small oil fields.

## UN buffer

The event has been accompanied by Israel's objections to the withdrawal of the UN Truce Supervision Force from the peninsula, which is seen as a buffer between its troops and those of Egypt since the first disengagement agreement in 1974 and its dispute with the U.S. over its ready acquiescence in the decision. At the same time Mr. Menachem Begin's Government has rejected the American-Soviet compromise that the 4,000-man UN Truce Supervision Organisation, which have been given suggestions from Jerusalem that Israel may delay further withdrawals from Sinai if security arrangements—as it defines them—provided for in the treaty are not honoured to the letter.

The treaty itself spells out agreement between the two countries that UN personnel should be stationed in specific areas at the various stages of Israeli evacuation, and not be withdrawn without the approval of the UN Security Council, with the affirmative vote of its five permanent members. UNEF as such is not specified, however. In practice, moreover, the Soviet Union would have vetoed a continuation of its role. Israel has good reason to be suspicious of Moscow's motives and has understandably wanted to exclude it from the peace-making process. As it is, the compromise on a truce supervisory force was worked out in private to avoid an awkward open wrangle in the Security Council which might jeopardise the passage of the SALT II through the Senate.

In itself the title of the much smaller force proposed is a misnomer. Israel is now formally at peace with Egypt—not in a state of truce. It is totally justified in seeking maximum assurance about its security. But the stand it is taking implicitly questions the good faith and concern for Israel of the superpower on which it relies ultimately for its security. Equally serious is the apparent disregard for the possibility that the rejection of UN observers might sour not only the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy but also the normalisation of relations with Egypt.

On this front President Anwar Sadat has been flexible and compliant to Israeli demands to the extent that he has few cards now to play in the talks on the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. He himself has responded with dignity and responsibility by dismissing the angle over UNEF as a side issue that would quickly be settled. The probability is that it will be.

In the meantime the uneasy impression left is that Israel has, perhaps, exaggerated the importance of the question to give itself another bargaining point in the autonomy negotiations—though Mr. Begin's Government has always maintained them not to be related to implementation of the bilateral treaty with Egypt.

Last but not least Israel's protests over the replacement of UNEF come odder from a state that has certainly done nothing to help the mission of the peace-keeping force in the South Lebanon. Originally dispatched to fill the vacuum left when Israel withdrew after its invasion of the area in the spring of last year, the UN Truce Force in Lebanon has been unable to prevent further incursions (by either side) or to displace the right-wing Christian militias.

## Impossible

The deep-seated political problems of Lebanon have also made impossible UNIFIL's other two objectives: ensuring the security of the population south of the River Litani and assisting the Government of President Elias Sarkis to restore its authority in the area. Israeli policy in the Lebanon makes it difficult to understand its objections to the latest development in Sinai.



## Food blow to Soviet growth

BY ANTHONY ROBINSON

WHENEVER the Soviet Union gathers in a good harvest side effects in the way of higher growth targets and the go-ahead for imports of industrial and consumer goods are not slow to show themselves. It happened last year, on the strength of a record grain harvest of 237m tonnes. The reverse is equally true and this year the Soviet Union, and its East European allies face a very bad harvest indeed.

The crops are vulnerable at the best of times because of the geographic position of the Soviet Union and the extreme continental climate. But the sheer size of the country usually means that bad weather conditions in one part are compensated for by reasonable growing conditions elsewhere. This year however a long bleak winter gave way to severe spring flooding in several areas of eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. It was followed by searing winds and three months of drought.

The result can be seen in smaller sown acreages and stunted crops over a vast area ranging from Poland across the Balkans and into the traditional granaries of the Soviet Union—the Ukraine, the Caucasus, and the Volga region. The only mitigating factor on an otherwise bleak scene is the possibility of bumper spring wheat crops from the virgin lands area of Kazakhstan and western Siberia.

The Soviet Press is full of articles and appeals stressing the need for careful harvesting, for not spilling grain from open trucks, and other forms of waste. Earlier this year industry heard similar calls to make good losses caused by the harsh winter. According to the latest six month industrial production figures much of the losses in winter have been made good.

Even so the economy is very tightly stretched and the bad

harvest means that planners and politicians face some very tough decisions in coming months. Growth is certain to be curtailed and that implies a tough struggle for resources between the competing claims of the military, heavy industry, agriculture, and consumers.

The decision to import grain reflects the high priority given by the current Soviet leadership to fulfilling its pledge to increase supplies of meat and dairy products to the long suffering Soviet consumer. Similar aims have been adopted throughout eastern Europe. Steadily expanding stocks of livestock and poultry explain the drive for higher grain production—and the need to ensure imported supplies when harvests are bad.

## Forecasts reduced

The most recent estimate of the U.S. Department of Agriculture puts the probable Soviet grain harvest this year between 165m and 195m tons. The Department's forecasts have been steadily reduced as the season has developed, though even the lower range is still well above the truly disastrous 1975 harvest of a mere 140m tons. It was this which induced the Russians to sign a five-year U.S.-Soviet grain agreement in October of that year. At that time even heavy imports were insufficient to prevent large-scale distress slaughtering. Only this year have livestock herds fully recovered. By mid-year the number of hogs, for example, in the Soviet Union had reached the record level of 74.7m head.

So far the only sign that livestock may have to be sacrificed once again has come from a larger-than-usual reduction of the poultry stock last month. But observers will be carefully watching this autumn when hog

slaughtering traditionally reaches its peak.

The cost of averting the need to sacrifice livestock will be very high. USDA estimates that this year the Soviet Union will double its grain imports to almost 31m tons from the 15.7m tons imported last year in spite of last year's record 237m tons grain crop. The Soviet Union has also contracted for over 1m tons of soy beans at \$300 per tonne, and is importing lamb and mutton from New Zealand. East European purchasers are also looking around for supplies and credits. Poland, for example, has just raised a \$50m loan from Argentina, mainly to cover grain and other food imports and has arranged \$500m in credits from the U.S. Commodity Credit Corporation.

If the latest USDA estimates prove correct and the Soviet Union does indeed import 10m tons of wheat and 20.5m tons of coarse grains the strain on the balance of payments will be considerable. At current U.S. export prices wheat fetches \$180 per ton and corn \$135, to which should be added the \$20-\$30 per ton freight charges from U.S. Gulf ports to Black Sea ports. The Soviets are expected to purchase half their requirements from the U.S.

Grain imports of this size would cost the Soviet Union around \$4.5bn plus freight and plus over 1m tons of soy beans at \$300 per ton and other agricultural products including mutton and lamb from New Zealand. The Soviet Union has replaced the UK as New Zealand's principal outlet.

Much of the import will be carried in Soviet ships—but the USDA estimates that over 600 vessels will be required to transport the quantities now expected and that will mean substantial chartering of foreign bottoms. The cost of higher grain imports will more than wipe out the extra hard currency earnings which the Soviet Union

has been counting on from the higher price of gold, gas and oil sold on international markets. Soviet trade with the West showed a deficit of 1.3bn rubles (around \$2bn) over the first quarter of this year. Higher grain imports will worsen the position and oblige the Soviet Union either to reduce imports of much needed industrial goods, to insist on tougher buy back and compensation deals, or to increase its foreign debt, or, as is most likely, to try a combination of all three.

These are the traditional ways in which the Soviet Union has reacted to a bad harvest. But the implications are probably even more serious at this juncture when the willingness or ability of the leadership to make radical changes or to inspire enthusiasm is strictly limited and when the economy at large is already under severe strain.

No Soviet citizen faces hunger as the result of the sort of harvest now in prospect. If a certain amount of distress slaughtering did take place it would temporarily boost meat supplies. But that would mean subsequent meat shortages extending into the indefinite future. The drought will restrict the already meagre choice of vegetables and other foodstuffs available this winter.

## Consumer subsidies

Not only will this affect worker morale; it will also reduce the supply of agricultural products to industry. A bad harvest reduces the state income and increases demands made on the state for producer and consumer subsidies alike. The Soviet Union prides itself on having kept the prices of bread, meat and other foodstuffs relatively stable for many years. But food subsidies are now estimated to cost the State

budget over 25bn rubles annually of total agricultural production valued at around 130bn rubles.

Raising food prices by phasing out subsidies would require a major political decision, fraught with unpredictable consequences. When Poland, for example, announced sharp rises of the price of meat and other food products in 1976, workers took to the streets. The Government was forced to rescind them the next day. Since then Polish prices have risen—but more gradually and in rather devious ways through the introduction of special shops.

Last weekend Hungary took the bull by the horns and announced an average 30 per cent rise of food prices—including a 50 per cent increase for bread, a 30 per cent rise for meat, and a 20 per cent rise on dairy products. Hungary with its 11 year experience of the so-called "new economic mechanism" is the pace setter for more flexible pricing generally in eastern Europe and has the additional problem of weekend invasion by thousands of Austrians crossing the border without visas and buying subsidised food to take home.

This year's bad harvest could well be the trigger to set off a more generalised rise of food prices throughout the bloc. But such a decision requires not only political self-confidence but also the reasonable probability that higher prices will shorten queues and ensure a greater choice and better quality.

In spite of the substantial rise of Soviet and East European agricultural output in recent years and the rising level of investment in agriculture these objectives are far from being realised. The Soviet Union is currently pouring 27 per cent of its total investment into the agricultural sector. It is reclaiming vast areas of relatively infertile soil in the western part of the country, introducing

more powerful tractors, combine harvesters and equipment of all kinds.

Large irrigation projects, improved transport, storage and drying facilities, the construction of better housing and social amenities and generalised electrification of the countryside are all consuming vast resources. Industry is also trying to raise the output of fertilisers, herbicides, pesticides and other products. But in spite of all this, progress is still painfully slow in raising the variety and quality of the food which actually finds its way through the inefficient transport, storage and marketing system to the 270m Soviet consumers.

## Low overall efficiency

Even without the vagaries of the climate, Soviet farming is still high on cost and low on overall efficiency. Even the grain, which is so expensively grown and imported is used wastefully. As much as 20 per cent is regularly wasted by spillage, bad storage and inadequate drying. Moreover, a very high proportion is fed directly to animals in its raw state without being ground or mixed with additives. That greatly reduces its potential nutritional value.

All these deep-seated structural problems can be brushed aside when nature smiles and second crops are gathered in. But heads roll when the harvest fails as political scapegoats are sought to answer for unserviceable combine harvesters, the shortage of spare parts, the lack of fertiliser, or some other detail of a highly centralised and bureaucratic agricultural system which sets out to make workers out of peasants but finds that careful peasant husbandry of small plots and the family cow is what many of its farm workers still do best.

## MEN AND MATTERS

## Growing power in the towns

At Reading University they are claiming that higher oil prices give a new relevance to an agricultural survey which the National Farmers Union doubtless thinks pretty bizarre. The survey is on the feasibility of small-scale farming in towns.

You may imagine that there is an implicit paradox, but recent investigations suggest that large amounts of derelict urban land could profitably be used to grow food: bomb sites, old goods yards, abandoned railway lines are all potential terrain for small farmers.

The Reading University research is being funded by the Gatsby Foundation, which turns out to be nothing to do with the Scott Fitzgerald character—it has been created by Sainsbury, the grocers. The foundation has given £10,000 for the urban study and another £13,600 for a linked research into rural smallholdings. Leading the team is Professor Colin Speeding.

The "small is beautiful" view was expounded to me by Martin Wagner, one of the staff at Reading's department of agriculture. "Urban wasteland and smallholdings can be made to grow food in a way which is both socially desirable and sensible in energy terms," he said. "Big farms are more efficient because of mechanisation, but very extravagant in energy."

He gave the example of the costly use of imported nitrogen fertilisers, based upon oil. "The credit balance of small farming is not merely social but also may appear as in accord with British national interest."

Wagner is working with biologist Dr. Jean Walsingham, who is concentrating on the rural potential. The two studies interrelate because the amount of agricultural land being lost through "urban sprawl" is broadly matched by the derelict acres in our towns.

I asked if labour-intensive methods of urban farming



might help to give unemployed teenagers some work to do. Wagner replied cautiously that it would be premature to jump to that conclusion.

## Dock shock

A Norwegian-built floating dock destined for a shipyard in Suez, at the southern end of the canal, has been stuck at work in Port Said. Though built to Egyptian specifications, the 78-metre wide dock is too big to get through the canal, unless a lot of buoys and other marking devices are moved out of the way. The canal company and the shipyard concerned have now appointed a joint committee to decide how to tackle the problem.

This is the second time recently that Norwegian yards have supplied Egypt with oversized craft. This time the builders—Ankerlokken Verft—were not at fault. Earlier this year, however, the Smedvik shipbuilding group had to grant an undisclosed discount to a Cairo shipping company, which had ordered two hotel barges for carrying tourists up and down the Nile. The barges were found to have a draught ten centimetres greater than the

contract specified. The shipping company successfully claimed this would limit the vessels' operating range.

## Soft sell

The Bank of England is still not getting things quite right when it comes to new issues of Government stock. Yesterday morning, would-be investors who arrived at the doors of the New Issue Office in Watling Street were met with a handwritten sign announcing "No access. Entrance at 'D' Block."

As they turned hurriedly away to search for 'D' Block, uniformed ushers had to rush out and explain that the message was intended for Bank staff, not prospective lenders to Her Majesty's Government.

## New heroes

The international airport at Managua, the Nicaraguan capital, has already been given a fresh name by the revolutionary junta. It will be called Sandino airport, after the nation's folk hero. This is fitting enough, for when General Augusto Sandino was murdered in 1933 on orders from the founder of the Somoza dynasty, his body was buried under the main airport runway. Sandino will also appear on new 1,000 cordoba banknotes. The existing notes carry pictures of the Somoza family, which has caused a lot of anxiety for anyone possessing them. The junta has already issued a decree banning any reference to the ousted dynasty.

"We are reassuring the public that these notes are still legal tender," says Dr. Arturo Cruz, new head of the Central Bank. "But we are ready to exchange them for 500 cordoba notes." The 500 cordoba notes bear the picture of a national poet who is still politically acceptable. Another hero high in the pantheon of the guerrillas is Che Guevara, who was killed in Bolivia in 1967. Someone who has predictably turned up in Nicaragua is Guevara's erstwhile companion-in-arms—the French

writer, Regis Debray.

Debray says he is present as an "observer." My colleague William Chislett tells me from Managua that there was rather a personal touch in running across Debray again. He had last met him in Madrid in 1975, when Debray gave a news conference during the final weeks of the Franco regime—and was quickly deported to Paris. For merely going along to listen, Chislett was put under arrest for several hours.

## Frozen pioneering

A St. Albans company named Chico-O-Roll is crossing chop-sticks with me for reporting the claims of a Hong Kong company that it has just mastered the secrets of cooking and freezing Chinese food.

It seems that up in St. Albans they have been at it for six years. Emmauer Best and his Chinese partner, Winston Lee Yung, began with a first year's turnover of 20 tons, with a value of £25,000. "Now we are producing 25 tons a week of pre-cooked Chinese frozen food," says Best. That brings in £2m a year.

The food may be oriental, but Best strikes a full-blooded patriotic note: "It is time we as a nation put a little less of a spotlight on the achievements of overseas companies and highlighted what we are achieving here."

Fairly said—more than 1,000 tons of Chico-O-Roll's sweet and sour must be serving quite a few takeaways.

## Here's hoping

Sir Kenneth Cork yesterday became the first Lord Mayor of London ever to preach a sermon in St. Paul's Cathedral. He made no concessions to sceptics and pessimists, choosing as his text: "The age of miracles is not yet past."



"I thought the D.G.A.A. was only for the old. But they help the young as well."

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# Radical alternative to the sale of the century

over on union privileges, and an attack on the "fantasy monetary guidelines," which Sir Geoffrey Howe in fact inherited from Mr. Denis Healey. Disaffected Conservative criticism of the Thatcher strategy seems mainly a half-hearted echo of the Labour complaints.

One does not have to approve of the switch from income tax to VAT in the last budget, or indeed to endorse the detailed composition of the spending curbs, to find this a state and unprofitable reshuffle of a line of thinking, which was not only defeated in the last general election, but which has failed to win a clear majority for Labour at any election in the 1970s.

Something more is needed from critics of any hue than a mere rearguard defence of Britain's declining, albeit still high manufacturing industries and areas.

The clue to what is being provided by none other than Mr. Denis Healey when he said in a recent article in the *Financial Weekly*: "The question for those who believe that Britain requires a more equal distribution of wealth is how to achieve it without consequential damage to the economy, which might offset the potential benefits."

One does not have to be a social egalitarian to wonder if individual share ownership has to be quite so concentrated as it is, or to worry that the concentration of wealth in the UK seems greater than in the US or Canada. Economic change in the next few years is likely to bring rising real property values, greater freedom to invest abroad and falling interest rates bringing rising bond values. These phenomena together with the effect of the Common Agricultural Policy on land values, all seem to point to a continuing recovery in the share of wealth held by the top

few per cent, after its fall in the generation up to 1974.

Even a gentle statistical trend in this direction is all too likely to produce its crop of headline extravaganzas and abuses. If countervailing measures to spread wealth more widely are not taken, we may have the type of ill-considered harmful interventions, against which the former Chancellor, speaking from personal experience, warns his own party.

Mr. Healey, does not, however, quite answer his own question. He believes that the sort of land reform other countries have had in the past two centuries is impractical for reasons of "agricultural policy." He has hopes in the long run for his own Capital Transfer Tax (on which the Conservatives may well have their own designs) but in the end comes down, less than fully heartily, to a favour a wealth tax—mainly because he thinks that Sir Geoffrey Howe's cuts in higher rate tax have removed the arguments against it. Both CTT and a wealth tax are, however, wholly negative. The proceeds can be used to repay debt or reduce other taxes; but they do not promote public ownership among a wider public.

There is in fact a direct way of spreading wealth ownership more widely which ought to appeal to Labour and to Tory, Liberal and non-party radicals alike. It is to take the opportunity the North Sea provides to give the citizens a direct share in the national oil revenues. The favourable headlines which greeted the proposals for selling a stake in British Airways and British Aerospace to the public show there is a political appeal in the idea of a citizen's stake in national assets. Indeed the proposals prompted a eulogistic profile of the Trade Secretary, Mr. John Nott, in a Sunday

paper not normally associated with Conservative sympathies.

The suggestion that I am making is entirely different in concept, but of much greater and more lasting potential appeal. Under the present Conservative proposals shares in public enterprises will have to be issued and bought for cash in the normal way. From this point of view BNOC is just another oil company like BP. Although some shares may be allocated to workers on favourable terms, the bulk will inevitably go to the existing shareholder class, who can afford to subscribe.

## State revenues

The proposal put forward here, however, is that state revenues from North Sea oil royalties, Petroleum Revenue Tax and North Sea-based Corporation Tax, and have nothing to do with the BNOC as such. So far these revenues have been modest under arrangements to encourage early development, but they might well reach £500 a year by the early 1980s (see *Economic Viewpoint*, July 5). The idea is to take a part or whole (preferably the whole) of these revenues and divide them among the 41m adult citizens of Britain. The rights to these "dividends" would, after a phasing-in period, become transferable in the market place, and thus capitalised.

The precise proposal is that the State's North Sea revenue should be distributed directly to adult citizens to create a People's Stake in North Sea oil as a substitute for the target reduction from 30p to 25p in the basic Income Tax rate proposed by Sir Geoffrey Howe. The figures in the Financial Statement suggest that a further 5p cut in the basic tax rate would cost £2.5bn in a full year. Even

rounding this up to £2.5bn or £3bn to take account of inflation in the early 1980s, this is still less than half North Sea oil revenues. If the balance of the budget were satisfactory, one might argue for a tax cut as well as at least some direct distribution of North Sea revenues on a People's Stock.

But as the latest public spending curbs show, the constraint imposed by the public sector requirement is a tight one; and there is likely in practice to be a choice between the proposed people's oil dividends and further cuts in the basic rate.

A reduction of the basic tax rate, as Mrs. Thatcher recently explained at Question Time, inevitably benefits most those who pay most tax, and does not benefit all at those below the tax threshold. By contrast the North Sea dividends would apply equally to rich and poor, old and young, sick or healthy. The scheme is thus an egalitarian one, but is no way dependent on any or on restoring personal marginal tax rates, which no sensible Chancellor of any party would want to contemplate.

But while egalitarian, the North Sea stock would also do more to create a property owning democracy than all the wider share ownership and profit sharing schemes put forward in the past. It does so by creating a marketable asset, which individuals could sell, or use as collateral, in a way impossible with merely promised tax reductions. A detailed scheme presented by Barry Riley and myself in the April 1978 issue of *Lloyds Bank Review* contained an estimate that the capital value for an average family of 2.3 adults might be about £2,000 in 1980 in 1977 prices. After the recent increase in oil prices this could easily be £3,000 in current prices.

What then is wrong with the idea? One Labour Front Benchman, with every reason to follow these matters, remarked that his party was nervous about anything to do with shares. But surely it is not the principle, as such, of investment income—which gives people a cushion of resources and frees them from being complete wage slaves—that is objectionable, but the narrowness of its distribution, which the North Sea proposal would begin to correct. One Labour economic adviser frankly admitted to me that because he disliked my "monetarism," he was suspicious of anything else I proposed: emotionally understandable, but hardly rational.

"If your idea is so egalitarian, why doesn't Mr. Benn take it up?" Mr. Benn's objection is that it is "irrelevant" to the regeneration of British industry. Even if that were the case, it does not knock the proposal out of the ring. Neither Labour nor Conservative Governments have found industrial regeneration easy. The reason why the Callaghan Government allowed the first fruits of North Sea oil (in the shape of better terms of trade and an improved current balance) to be dissipated in a consumer boom was not electoral cynicism but shortage of worthwhile investment opportunities for the NEB which had escaped the private capital market. North Sea revenues exist in any case, and their use to widen property ownership is worthwhile for its own sake, whether or not there are by-products in improved industrial performance.

The mass distribution of North Sea dividends would not, it must be emphasised, prevent a Labour Government from investing more in, say, the National Enterprise Board. The dividends would be taxable and so would any consumer spending they financed. Thus, about

40 per cent of the revenues would come back to the Treasury, via the tax-take. The North Sea stock is entirely neutral between personal and collective spending.

The most widespread objection is the cynical one that most people would sell off their North Sea stock and go on a spending binge. ("Don't trust the people.") The objection comes oddly from those politicians and economists who are also afraid of a slump and wish the savings rates were lower. But would North Sea stock really cause a much bigger spending binge than the tax cuts which are the alternative?

Any undesired excess of spending could, in any case, be prevented by maintaining appropriate fiscal and monetary guidelines. It would of course be perfectly rational for individuals of modest means to diversify their portfolios by selling some of their oil stock to the institutions and buying, say, unit trusts instead. This would simply be prudent investment strategy, as it is when workers, given shares in some existing employee share scheme, sell a substantial proportion on receipt.

## Once-for-all

In fact the North Sea stock, as presented in the *Lloyds Bank Review* article, exists in two different versions, one suitable for Tory reformers, the other for Socialists. The "Tory" version is a once-for-all distribution; the "Socialist" one involves the continuing distribution of North Sea stock to all reaching 18 or some other prescribed age. This second variant would reduce the market value of each unit, but not, of course, the aggregate value of the stock. The political labels are tongue-in-cheek. But the version with the continuing stock issue does protect children from the im-

prudence of their parents and is a safeguard against fresh wealth concentration.

The idea could be extended to other sectors. Instead of (or in addition to) selling shares in nationalised industries, stock could be allotted to all citizens—the industries would probably have to be grouped into trusts for the purpose to make the units large enough. A Labour Government could make the stock non-voting, if it wanted to preserve the principle of state control. But for a Government of any political stripe it would be a great boon to have a massive vested interest in the profitability of state industry, to counterbalance the present pressure groups, which stand in the way of market pricing for their products (gas being the most topical example).

Sensible radicals should consider the idea of a "citizens' issue" of a stake in all major concerns—"nationalised" or "private." The idea is not so fanciful. Scandinavian Social Democrat parties have toyed with the idea of a transfer of ownership to unions by these methods. Why not give these schemes a more libertarian start by thinking in terms of distribution to individuals?

The "watering" of the existing capital would amount to a capital levy on existing shareholders, but if introduced gradually might be less disruptive and serve a more constructive purpose than a conventional wealth tax.

These wider ideas are some way ahead. The place to start with a pilot scheme is the distribution of North Sea oil revenues. It is both a radical and a practical proposal and one in which equity and incentive are for once allied harmoniously instead of being in opposition to each other.

Samuel Brittan

## Letters to the Editor

### Commodity centre

From Sir Peter Tennant  
Sir—Before the General Election plans for the setting up of a world commodity centre in London were advanced, the Labour Government had agreed in principle to fund the centre to a £50m financing with private enterprise which is already committed for its share. Now, as your article of July 20 suggests, the Treasury is "re-examining" its policy of cutting public expenditure, "may be" withdrawing government support and hints that the whole project should be at the cost of private enterprise. This is a serious matter for the project which is not only inter-governmental and concerned with housing and providing conference facilities for not only inter-governmental commodity associations, but also its own article indicates a headquarters for a United Nations Common Commodities Buffer Stock Fund and the headquarters possibly of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Common Fund.

It seems appropriate that such international organisations should have support from our Government as well as from the private sector. This suggestion of a commitment made by the former Labour Government looks like yet another case of the great mismatch between Government and the private sector in matters of investment (see the Hansard Society Study "Politics and Industry: The Great Mismatch"—Sir Richard Marsh, Lord Armstrong, Lord Dyers and others).

The life cycle of politicians is too much determined by the period of time between general elections, while that of statesmen and private long-term investors is concerned with the benefits to future generations. To retain and develop London as the world's centre for inter-governmental organisations, as well as for private trade in commodities is of lasting benefit to this country; but investment in such a facility will not benefit the investors directly, which indirectly it will be of value to our country as a whole and to our balance of payments. If it were a question of public expenditure without likelihood of return, the Treasury attitude would be understandable, but this is not conceived as a partnership in the national interest between Government and private enterprise and an investment in the future of our irrevocable earnings.

Let us hope that this project will not be thrown on the scrapheap of good intentions, to join so many other co-operative projects between Government and private enterprise which have petered out without a whimper since the last war.

(Sir) Peter Tennant,  
54 Lombard Street, E.C3.

### A flutter on the future

From Dr. S. Castelli  
Sir—It was fascinating to read John Moore's article on computer leasing insurance (July 16)—putting the finger nicely on the real point that such

even though losses recoverable under the result of a specified contingency—and then to turn to the correspondence columns and read Mr. David Mordimer's letter supporting the view that the Government should in effect act as "another Lloyd's" with a similar policy underwriting the risk of small business failure.

Without for the moment arguing either way whether Lloyd's, or the Government, are in principle "right" in considering such commercial contingency underwriting and "anyway having" all several "businesses" declared myself in favour of almost any innovative initiative which helps to fuel the enterprise and "invention" of small, particularly new technology-based, businesses. I would like to sound a quiet word of warning, borne out of the evidence of public disquiet occasioned by the "failure" of computer leasing insurance underwriting.

The simple fact is that, if one calls backing new, small businesses (whether directly with cash and/or management support, or indirectly with guaranteed "investment" or "underwriting" proud words with a ring of British institutional dependability about them, the ground is immediately prepared for unfulfilled expectations, with all its usual attendant breast-beating, forehead-tapping and teeth-sucking, probably leading to future unproductive retraining, and other withdrawal symptoms.

If, on the other hand, one recognises the provision of such backing for what is, a gamble—a "pound on an industrial horse"—there are no expectations to be unfulfilled: it is in the nature of a true gamble that any winnings come essentially as a pleasant surprise.

For a Government, the sums involved in such a programme, compared with the bulk managed in various pursuit of "economic strategy" and "public industrial investment" are, frankly, minimal. I would be am not alone in being happier to see it sold as a governmental "butter on the future," rather than anything more profound which might lead to future recommitments. Any takers?

Stephen Castelli,  
"Furlongs," Grange Road,  
Wickham Bishop, Wiltshire,  
WSSR.

### Energy—prices and value

From Mr. W. Cooper

Sir—Lombard's view on the merits of British coal mining (July 13); the report from David Lascelles on synthetic fuels (July 17); and the attempts by President Carter to re-organise American energy sourcing and use, all demonstrate the underlying fallacy of our industrialised society's views about energy.

Taking Lombard's observations first: in energy terms (irrespective of prices) the energy value of coal mined in Australia, transported half-way across the world (using oil) demonstrates quite clearly that we, as a species, still have to learn some fundamental facts about the physics of energy and existence. Perhaps "economics" might dictate that, when the "money" costs of transportation per ton, added to the net export price per ton from Australia, equals the National Coal Board Price in Britain, transportation is as "economical" as it can be.

accounting" would advise that it was not "economical" to begin with.

Equally misguided is the idea that "synthetic" fuels are an answer to America's energy problem. The trouble with synthetic fuels is that they consume (often vast) quantities of energy in their production. The laws of thermodynamics cannot be evaded, no matter how much we wish they could be. Thus, historically, the cost of synthetic fuels has always been higher than natural alternatives simply because synthetic fuels incorporate consumed energy in their production; energy which has been bought at currently prevailing prices.

Thus, the current suggested price of synthetic oil of \$27-\$47 will progressively rise as energy inputs become more expensive and re-processing plants are extended to increase production. It may transpire that synthetic fuels become the only source of "oil" when the earth's natural reserves are exhausted, but they can never be "cheaper" than natural oil for the obvious reasons of capital/energy costs per barrel of output.

President Carter appears to have achieved a considerable personal victory with his "energy" speech, but he has shied away from confronting the American people with the real truth of the situation, probably because it is too overwhelming for them to assimilate. Perhaps even Mr. Carter himself is not aware of the true nature of our collective predicament.

We have to learn that our whole industrial civilisation is based on an adequate supply of "low entropy" resources, that is, resources which contain "free energy" man can consume for his own purposes. The truth no one seems willing to face is that while these resources are finite and depleting, our industrial civilisation cannot continue without them.

Thus, the "price" of "energy" in all its various forms is highly artificial because we have not understood and accepted this fact. We have made the price in "money" terms historically low because, mistakenly, we have been led to believe that high prices would bring forth "substitutes" in a free market economy. This is, of course, quite absurd.

When you have depleted all forms of "low entropy" resources in the world, no price of any magnitude will create more. Thus the value of energy is that it is the basis of all life on this planet. Many of our companion species have learned to live within their "solar income" when it comes to energy supplies.

We, however, have created a situation where we are almost totally dependent on "solar capital" in the forms of oil, coal, gas, etc. This is our Achilles' Heel, and unless we are able to recognise that fact in good-time, we are all fated to become "high entropy matter," which, in human terms we understand as "dead."

Winston A. Cooper,  
Rammore, Raleigh Drive,  
Claygate, Esher, Surrey.

### Third London airport

From Mr. D. Burgess-Wise

Sir—Your Aerospace

airport "no matter what the cost in cash or environmental terms" do not bear examination. The figures issued by the British Airports Authority to justify this lunatic project are, at best, questionable, and indeed have been totally discounted by an independent market survey which conclusively proves that the potential future growth in air travel can easily be contained by the use of existing facilities.

The cash cost of building this airport—and remember, 5,000 acres is twice the size of Heathrow—has been estimated at £1bn, though inevitably this figure would prove to be several hundred per cent below the actual cost when the project was finished—equally inevitably—several years behind schedule. And the environmental cost—wherever such an airport was built—would be unbearable.

My home is only a mile from the proposed site at Willingale, a village of unique character set in Green Belt countryside which has seen little change for hundreds of years and which is some of the most fertile agricultural land in Britain.

To build an airport here would destroy not only Willingale, which boasts two ancient churches side-by-side in the same churchyard (shared by the parishes of Willingale and Willingale Doe) but also the hamlet of Shellow Bowells, whose name alone deserves a Grade I preservation order. It would render the beautiful Rodding Valley totally uninhabitable, both from the point of view of atmospheric and noise pollution, and from the creation, in this unsophisticated environment, of a new town, the size of Sheffield, as well as car parks, motorways, industrial estates.

This region makes a major contribution to Britain's agricultural self-sufficiency, and its destruction would be no less than economic suicide.

There are equally sound reasons why none of the other proposed sites should have this monstrous project inflicted upon them. Indeed, the only factor they have in common is that they are equally remote from the homes of those who are most vociferous in promoting the myth of the need for a new London airport!

David Burgess-Wise,  
25, Walker Avenue,  
Piffard, Ongar,  
Essex.

### Capital for coal

From Mr. P. Adorion

Sir—The conversion of coal into liquid fuels is not new, but we have the coal and the know-how in this country to do this on a large scale, so as to produce from coal a large proportion of our fuel-oil requirements.

So far plans are for pilot plants only costing perhaps some tens of millions of pounds. Why can we not without delay get on with full scale production plants, costing some hundreds of millions of pounds, but resulting in the production of important quantities of fuel oil.

If the National Coal Board cannot get sufficient backing for this from Government, could it not invite private enterprise in this country and in other countries of Europe to subscribe the necessary capital?

GENERAL  
Members of Trades Union Congress economic committee meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to protest on the impact of proposed expenditure cuts.  
Mr. Trygve Tambursten, Minister of State, Norwegian Oil and Energy Ministry, begins two days of talks in London with his British counterpart, Mr. Hamish Gray—topics under discussion will include the North Sea gas-gathering pipeline project and also the Stratford Field.  
Pilkington shop stewards representing process workers meet to discuss industrial action on pay claim.

British Airways annual report.  
Electricity Council annual report.  
Trident Life Assurance conference, Budget 1979—New Directions for Life Assurance, London Press Centre, ECA.  
Three-day Country Landowners' Association Game Fair, opens, Woodstock, Wiltshire.  
OFFICIAL STATISTICS  
Central Statistical Office first quarter figures on institutions investment. Department of Energy publication Energy Trends.

## Today's Events

Hotel, Swansea, 12, Braby Leslie, Great Eastern Hotel, EC, 12, British Steam Specialties Grand Hotel, Leicester, 12, Caffyns, Central Library, Eastbourne, 3, Durapire International Waldorf Hotel, WC, 11, Elliott Group of Peterborough, Great Eastern Hotel, EC, 12, 18, East Harding Street, EC, 12, W. Goodkind, 79, Market Place, W, 12, 30, Plymouth, Winchester House, EC, 12, Premier Consolidated Oldfields, Winchester House, EC, 12, William Press, Inn on the Park, W, 11, 30, Sangars, Connaught Rooms, WC, 12, Sheenbridge Engineering, Grosvenor House, W, 12, 30, Wilkinson Match, 116, Pall Mall, SW, 11, 30.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS  
House of Commons: Consolidated Fund.  
House of Lords: Limitation Amendment Bill, third reading. Charging Orders Bill, third reading. EEC Galassia Bill, third reading. Various motions for approval. Short debate on working party on dogs. Short debate on postal charges on magazines.  
COMPANY MEETINGS  
Arbuthnot Latham, 37, Queen Street, EC, 12, 30, Baring Bill, The Holiday Inn St Nicholas Circle, Leicester, 11, 30, Beechwood Construction, Dragon

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David Burgess-Wise,  
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## Concord Rotaflex revises sights for full year

AFTER NON-RECURRING costs of £137,000, pre-tax profits of Concord Rotaflex, formerly Rotaflex (GB), came out slightly lower at £523,000 for the first six months of 1979 against £539,100. Turnover was well ahead at £12.3m compared with £9.3m.

Although a better second half is expected, signs of an upturn in Europe did not materialise, and trading is still well below 1977 levels.

The directors say that this, coupled with the prevailing home economic conditions, has lowered their expectations for the full year.

Profits for the whole of 1978 fell from a record £1.55m to £1.24m but the directors looked forward to a marked improvement in results in the current year.

The net interim dividend is kept at 0.5195p per 10p share, last year's final payment being 1.7931p.

Tax for the period takes £134,100 (£143,700) leaving net profit at £388,900 against £395,400.

The directors state that operating profitability improved during the six months, although this was offset by higher interest charges and the non-recurring charges relating to payments to former directors, shares related to the acquisition, financing of Linolite, and the purchase of the freehold of the City Road property.

They add that operating costs will continue to fall in relation to sales and this bodes well for the future. The outstanding order book is substantially higher than at this time last year, they say.

● **comment**

Higher interest rates caught Concord Rotaflex unawares at a time when it was borrowing



Mr. Michael Frye, chairman of Concord Rotaflex

heavily to finance expansion and reorganisation. Interest charges almost doubled to £262,000, though some of this was offset by a first-time contribution from Linolite. Short-term borrowings rose by around £1m but the group is negotiating to convert this into long-term debt. Sterling's appreciation was another nasty surprise, knocking around £80,000 of first-half profits. Stripping out all these factors, as well as exceptional costs, gives a rise in trading profits of around 30 per cent — roughly in line with the sales growth. The second half should see the benefits of the

### HIGHLIGHTS

Conditions in the money market have become very tight and there is considerable interest in what the Bank of England will do next. Lex looks at developments in the light of yesterday's partial subscription for the gilt-edged tap issue. Big changes are taking place in the structure of the accounting profession and Lex considers the implications of two developments announced yesterday—a merger in the UK and formation of a new international group. Elsewhere Beecham's chairman yesterday made it clear that he still regards Beecham as a growth company, but the city remains cautious. Other news of note includes figures from Stock Conversion, Rotaflex and Tace.

## Stock Conversion beats forecast

TAXABLE revenue of the Stock Conversion and Investment Trust advanced from £5.36m to £5.65m in the year to March 31, 1979. At midway, a surplus of around £5m was forecast.

The net total dividend is stepped up to 3.965p (2.01175p) per 25p share, with a 2.625p final tax took £3.84m (£2.73m).

There were extraordinary credits of £32,000, compared with £68,000 previously. While dividends absorbed £1.15m (£802,000), retained revenue came through higher at £3.66m (£2.53m).

Earnings per share are given as 16.08p (8.78p) basic, and 14.18p (7.91p) fully diluted.

● **comment**

Stock Conversion has beaten its revenue forecast of £5m by a useful margin and, although the impact of dealing profits have clearly made their mark, the effect of reversions is also coming into play and the process is by no means over for the short term.

A strong balance-sheet, low development commitments and a significant improvement in earnings support a near doubling of the total dividend, although the yield is just 1.5 per cent at 374p and the cover is historically still very high. Recent outside estimates of net asset backing range between 400p and 425p per share

where the discount is respectively 6.5 and 12 per cent. That compares with a book value of 255p per share (the portfolio was mostly valued in 1977) and, although outside asset projections have been progressively upgraded over the past two years, the shares appear to be well up with the game.

## Gillett Bros. first half loss

AN unprofitable overall result for the first six months of the current year is reported by Gillett Brothers Discount Co. Nevertheless, the directors are declaring an increased interim dividend of 7p against 6.7p last year.

The Board states that money costs have been high in relation to earnings throughout the period and the recent increase in MLR produced trading losses.

For the year ended January 31, 1979, a total dividend of 16.961p was paid. Profits after tax and transfer of contingencies had slumped from £1.01m to £213,000.

## Tace ahead midway and sees rise at year end

ON turnover ahead from £5.85m to £7.13m, taxable profits of Tace, electrical and mechanical control equipment maker, rose from £207,000 to £268,000 for the half year ended March 31, 1979.

The directors state that the improved trend continues to be maintained and they anticipate that results for the full year will show reasonable progress—profit last year was £558,000 (£577,000).

The interim dividend is increased to 0.8p (0.5p) net per 10p share. Last year's final was 1p.

Pre-tax figure for the first half was struck after interest of £202,000 against £153,000.

The directors say that the continuing availability of substantial tax allowances has resulted in a low charge—£22,000 (£18,000)—after which and minorities of £13,000 (£15,000), the attributable balance came through ahead from £132,000 to £223,000.

● **comment**

Business is picking up at Tace. Pre-tax profits for the half year are up 28 per cent on an increase in turnover of just 7 per cent. The company is still slightly below its 1977 levels, but is well on the road to recovery. The higher profit level can be attributed, in a large part, to the reorganisation of Tace's Dutch management and the closure of

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED					
	Current payment	Date of payment	Corr. Total of spending for div. year	Total last year	Total
Alfred Dunhill 2nd int.	0.26	—	—	8.99	8.81
Albion	—	—	0.6	—	1.6
Braithwaite	2.66	Oct 1	2.32	4.87	4.3
Concord Rotaflex	0.52	Oct 10	0.52	—	2.31
Crossfairs Trust	2.32	Oct 1	2.35	4.17	3.7
CSC Investment	2.75	Sept 11	2.5	—	5.25
Forbes & Colman's Int.	1	Oct 1	0.63	—	2.26
Gillett Bros.	7	Aug 24	6.7	—	16.95
Harold Ingram	2.25	Sept 12	2.11	3.68	1.29
Lep	18.65	—	2.48	12.5	3.45
V. J. Lovell	1.5	Oct 1	1.5	—	4.36
Moorgate Inv.	1.6	Sept 7	1.5	—	4.74
New Thrombort Int.	0.9	Oct 5	0.94	—	1.62
Nthn. Industrial	1.7	Sept 17	1.65	—	4.85
Stanhope General	2	Sept 8	1.65	3.38	3.06
Stock Conversion	2.63	Sept 4	1.02	3.97	2.01
Tace	0.8	Sept 7	0.5	—	1.5

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated. \* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † Increase largely represents an amalgamation of two interims normally paid—no further payment until Final in July, 1980. ‡ To reduce disparity.

one factory in Holland. Considering the rough winter weather and transport strike (which affected Tace's customers), the group's performance looks reasonable. This is reflected in the increased interim dividend, which is up by more than a half. Analysts are projecting that the full year results will show steady progress with pre-tax profits hovering near

£700,000. This could lead to a prospective total dividend of just under 2p, covered about two and a half times and yielding over 9 per cent for the year, at yesterday's share price of 30p. The projected p/e would be around 6. None of this can compare to Tace's bumper 1978 earnings, but the group is definitely heading back in the right direction.

## Newman stake sold to help meet cost of court action

BY JOHN MASONSON

Mr. Alan Bartlett, who is defending an action brought by the Prudential Assurance, has sold 100,000 ordinary shares in Newman Industries to help meet his costs.

It was announced last week that Mr. John Knox Laughton, a co-defendant, would no longer be represented by lawyers because he claimed to have exhausted the resources he could devote to the case, but Mr. Bartlett says he has no intention of following the same course.

In the action, allegations of conspiracy and breach of duty have been brought against Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Laughton over a sale to Newman of assets and liabilities by Thomas Poles and Gladstone China (TPG). The sale took place in 1976, when Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Laughton were respectively chairman and vice-chairman of both companies. The Prudential was a small shareholder in Newman at the time.

Mr. Bartlett said the sale was concluded on Tuesday, when Newman shares closed at 89p. The

holding was sold at a slight discount to the market price of 90p. Mr. Bartlett held 120,286 shares, in addition to a non-beneficial holding of 200,950 shares.

Mr. Bartlett added that he may need to sell more assets as costs mount. The defence has yet to open its case and proceedings would continue next year. The action began on June 15 and total costs are estimated to be running at around £5,000 per day.

Mr. Bartlett said that Newman was under increasing pressure because of the action and that he was no longer sure whether it would be able to maintain its 1978 trading performance.

The court adjourns for the Long Vacation on Wednesday and, because only the plaintiff's case has so far been heard, the company will be in the shadow of adverse publicity throughout the summer, he added.

The action is currently being held up by the discovery and presentation of new documents. Mr. Bartlett said he could not swear an affidavit that all docu-

ments had been disclosed because the terms of the case were changing and it was no longer possible to be certain what was relevant.

**WINDING-UP**  
A. L. M. Developments has been compulsorily wound up by Mr. Justice Slade in the High Court.

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## Lep dividend jumps to 12.5p

As forecast, the directors of the Lep Group are declaring a second interim dividend of 8.65p for 1978 boosting the year's total from 3.45p to 12.5p on capital increased by a rights issue.

Turnover for the year improved from £51.5m to £55.85m while pre-tax profit at £4.82m

compared with £4.09m was in line with expectations. First half profits were down from £3.56m to £1.95m.

Profit of the group, international freight forwarder, was before UK tax of £542,430 against £597,441, overseas tax, £1.24m (£1.3m) and minorities of

£125,063 compared with £102,040. Earnings per share are shown at 36p (37.5p).

There is also a profit of £1.15m on sale of properties in Austria and is treated as an extraordinary item transferred directly to reserves.

## Monopolies go ahead for Alginate's U.S. bidders

BY ANDREW FISHER

TWO MAJOR U.S. companies were given the go-ahead yesterday to proceed with bids for Alginate Industries, Britain's major seaweed processor.

The approval came from the Monopolies Commission, which concluded that "both merger situations might be expected not to operate against the public interest."

No immediate comment was forthcoming from either Merck Incorporated or FMC Corporation, the two groups which have approached Alginate. But the UK company said it had now entered into discussion with both con-

ground for opposing either merger. It did consider how both companies would be likely to act in the event of a merger, finding that there would be "no significant detriment to the public interest."

## Dewhurst Dent rises to £0.52m

TAXABLE profits of Dewhurst Dent, glove maker and warehouse concern, expanded from £202,596 to £321,223 in the half-year to January 19, 1979, on increased turnover of £10.83m, against £9.28m.

The directors say second-half profits will be lower than the first half because of the seasonal nature of the trading of some subsidiaries, the industrial problems of January, and increased expenses which have eroded margins.

There is again no interim dividend. The Board will recommend a final when the full-year results are known. Last year's final was 0.16p net on taxable profits of £489,902 (£524,091).

The pre-tax surplus for the half-year was struck after lower depreciation of £181,581, against £193,126.

## IAL profits reach £9.3m

ON TURNOVER ahead from £102m to £125m, taxable profits of IAL, the aviation and communications systems and services group, rose from £5.5m to £9.3m in 1978.

Exports reached a record £54m (£49.2m).

The directors say the results were achieved in unfavourable overseas trading conditions, particularly the strong pound.

IAL is owned by British Airways and 30 other international airlines.

## Nickel men accept pay pact

ONTARIO—Workers at Inco Metals Shebandowan plant have voted in favour of a three-year agreement.

## Pension Fund Property units on offer

The Pension Fund Property Unit Trusts Group has announced offers on two of its funds, both for July 31, 1979.

The first offer relates to the Pension Fund Property Unit Trust (PFPUT), the largest fund in the stable. Units are being offered at an issue price of £1,900 per unit, yielding 4.5 per cent on the past four quarterly distributions.

This fund had a value of £229m as at June 2, 1979, covering 124 properties producing a total net annual income of £10.5m. But the issue document shows projected rental income rising to an estimated £13.1m per annum by the end of 1983. The fund enables pension schemes and other eligible funds to invest directly in property without forfeiting tax advantages. At present there are 584 funds holding units.

The other offer is for units in the Pension Fund Agricultural

Property Unit Trust at a subscription price of £1,300 per unit, yielding 3.8 per cent.

This trust was launched by the group in 1976 to provide pension funds with the opportunity to invest directly in agricultural land as a separate portfolio. The other funds in the group hold such investments as part of their portfolio, but the proportions depend on the strategy of the fund managers.

The group has acquired nearly 60,000 acres of farmland, about 10 per cent of the holdings of the financial institutions in this sector. This specialist trust owns three estates totalling 1,450 acres and is valued at an aggregate cost of £1.58m with an open market value of £1.93m.

The purchase of an arable farm in Lincolnshire is under contract and negotiations are well advanced for the purchase of a let farm in Scotland.

**HASLEMERE ESTATES**

**'An outstanding year'**  
reports  
Mr. F. E. Cleary, C.B.E.  
for the year ended 31st March, 1979  
Profit after tax up 38% to £3.1m.

**Dividend up 30%.**

**Property Portfolio up £27m to £153m.**

**Reserves up 48% to £106m.**

**Net asset value per share £3.76.**

4 Carlos Place, London W1Y 5AE.

**PLYSU LIMITED**

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. C. S. J. Summerlin

Years ending 31 March	1979	1978
Turnover	£13,252,000	£11,050,000
Profit before tax	£1,226,000	£750,000
Earnings per share	21.1p	11.8p
Dividends per share	1.8931p	1.3836p

Our products remain competitive despite very large increases in the price of plastics materials.

We anticipate that sales will continue to increase in both the 5 litre and 25 litre categories and we are taking steps to ensure that extra capacity is

available at the appropriate time.

Our momentum of growth is being maintained and £650,000 has already been sanctioned for capital expenditure in the current year.

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## THE H. SAMUEL GROUP OF COMPANIES

### A further year of record results

	1979	1978
Turnover (incl VAT)	£71,646,000	£59,414,000
Profit before Tax	£13,433,000	£10,396,000
Earnings per share	20.76p	17.36p
Dividends per share	6.50p	5.00p
Proposed one-for-four Capitalisation Issue for holders of Ordinary and A Ordinary shares.		

Mr. Robert Edgar, Chairman, says—

- Modernisation and expansion of the business continues—capital commitments amount to £3,767,000. At least six new branches are planned for the current year.
- Successful beginning of a new era—increased responsibility to new Directors throughout the Group—'Springboard' for the Eighties.
- Board estimates properties have value in excess of £43 million, surplus of £32 million above book value.

**H. Samuel Limited**

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary, H. Samuel Limited, Hunters Road, Birmingham B19 1DS.

**Electra Small Companies Fund**  
Electra Small Companies Exempt Fund  
for institutional investment in small listed companies

Prices of Income Units (subscription dates once a month)	18th July, 1979	18th July, 1978
	Bid Offer	Bid Offer
Electra Small Companies Fund	148.40p 152.50p	123.00p 126.50p
Electra Small Companies Exempt Fund	144.60p 148.50p	117.50p 121.00p

The combined value of the Funds at 18th July, 1979, based on offer prices was £19.4m.

**Electra Fund Managers Limited**  
Further information is available to those whose business involves the acquisition and disposal of securities, as principal or agent from Electra House, Temple Place, Victoria Embankment, London, WC2R 3BP. Tel: 01-836 7766.



## REPORTS TO MEETINGS

Beecham chief dispels  
low growth fears

Referring to the Beecham Group's modest growth in 1978-79, Mr. G. J. Wilkins, the chairman, told yesterday's AGM that the result simply reflected the year concerned and carried no long-term implications for the group's future growth rate, which he expected to be satisfactory.

He reported that the group's business in the UK and overseas remained strong. In 1978-79 consumer products accounted for the whole of the group's profit growth. However, pharmaceuticals provided some 80 per cent of profits and Mr. Wilkins said there was no doubt that they would remain the main profit centre for the foreseeable future.

The chairman said that in the U.S., as in other markets, the group encountered patent infringement, which he described as a serious matter but not a disaster. The U.S. pharmaceutical business remained strong, healthy and profitable. And in Iran the group's business was beginning to get back on its feet.

Referring to governments in relation to the pharmaceutical industry, the chairman said the situation got steadily worse. It was taking much longer to negotiate the "labyrinthine complexity" of their regulatory requirements and the cost of doing so was increasing continuously. In the group's case it amounted to several millions of pounds a year.

In 1978/79 the group increased its research and development expenditure by a quarter to over £31m. The chairman said that

this was partly due to the regulatory requirements but also reflected the rapid expansion of R and D activities.

At the annual meeting of the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Sir Nicholas Cayzer, the chairman, sounded a warning about future orders for British Shipbuilders.

He referred to the frustrations which the group still endured as a result of the decision to build two products carriers in a British yard. These carriers, he said, were almost two years late on delivery dates.

"Unless at some time reason is to prevail whereby delivery dates may be met, I can see little likelihood of further orders being obtained by any of these British yards, now grouped under British Shipbuilders."

On shipping, the chairman reported that rates seemed to be maintaining a more realistic level and although the weakness of the dollar was not helpful, he said there was a reasonable hope that the current year would see a return to a degree of profitability.

Sir Nicholas was reasonably confident about the trading prospects in the group's other areas of influence. Overall he reiterated his forecast made in the annual statement that current year's results should not be dissimilar from those of 1978.

On dividends the chairman felt that some increase in the rate seemed justifiable.

The following are extracts from other chairmen's reports made to annual meetings yesterday:

Butterfield Harvey—Mr. T. F. Honess said that after a difficult start progress would be made. The new order intake continued above budget levels and June saw the beginning of the anticipated upward trend in production, sales and profitability which he expected to continue.

On dividends the chairman hoped on future occasions to recommend payments fully in line with performance and outlook.

De La Rue—Sir Arthur Norman told holders the first quarter had produced a very good result and he saw no reason to vary his expectation of strong growth. Any shortfall from assets should be fully compensated for by the group's own trading.

Alfred Dunhill—Mrs. Mary Dunhill forecast a 30 per cent increase in the future dividend for the current year but stressed this should not be taken that the final would be raised by a similar amount. As almost 90 per cent of the group's business is outside the UK the profit for 1978/79 would be adversely affected when expressed in sterling if the pound continued at its high level. A decision on the final will be taken when the result is known. A small additional dividend is declared for 1978/79 of 1.25872p in respect of the year ended.

Readic International—Mr. Paul Croset reported that sales in the first quarter were ahead of the same period last year. Overseas margins were under pressure but in home markets they were holding up very well.

Ingram surges  
to £634,268

PRE-TAX profits of Harold Ingram jumped from a depressed £119,200 to £634,268 in the year to April 30, 1979.

At half-year, when a profit of £253,815 against £319,646 was reported, the directors said the outlook was sufficiently encouraging for them to commit £250,000 in capital expenditure on new machinery.

Mr. Harold Ingram, chairman, now says that the results justify the optimism of the interim statement and are even more gratifying in view of difficulties faced during the winter and spring.

Although the company was not entirely unaffected by the latter of these two periods, a combination of good trading conditions and careful stock control has enabled it to avoid the worst consequences experienced by many firms in the knitted garment field.

In spite of currency fluctuations, the company's European export markets continue to improve. Problems at the German office have now been traced out and it is now running profitably. A shirt operation, which was being severely undercut by low priced imports, has been closed.

Currently the forward order book position is well ahead of last year.

Earnings for the year under review improved from 3.3p to 9.1p per 10p share and the dividend total is 3.69p with a final payment of 2.25p net. Last year a single payment of 1.25p was made as an interim. The net asset value per share at April 30 was 57.5p (58.4p).

## BOARD MEETINGS

The following companies have notified dates of Board meetings to the Stock Exchange. Such meetings are usually held for the purpose of considering dividends. Official indications are not available as to whether dividends are to be paid or not and the sub-divisions shown below are based mainly on last year's timetable.

Company	Date
Imperial Chemicals	Aug. 1
British Petroleum	Aug. 1
British Airways	Aug. 1
British Overseas Airways	Aug. 1
British Airways	Aug. 1
British Overseas Airways	Aug. 1
British Airways	Aug. 1
British Overseas Airways	Aug. 1
British Airways	Aug. 1
British Overseas Airways	Aug. 1

book position is well ahead of last year.

Earnings for the year under review improved from 3.3p to 9.1p per 10p share and the dividend total is 3.69p with a final payment of 2.25p net. Last year a single payment of 1.25p was made as an interim. The net asset value per share at April 30 was 57.5p (58.4p).

Philip Harris confident  
but warns on sales

The current year has started satisfactorily for Philip Harris (Holdings), Mr. N. H. Russell, chairman, tells members in his annual review.

But he feels there must be some doubt as to the home educational market, because it has not been estimated what effect Budget cuts in educational expenditure will have on group sales.

The chairman says it is imperative that sales and productivity are increased so as to spread the increases in fixed overheads.

With the steps taken... I feel quite confident that we shall be able to achieve our aims.

As reported on July 11, the year-end improvement forecast turned out to be from £702,334 to £1,15m pre-tax to March 31, 1979, on turnover of £13.81m (£9.35m). The dividend is increased to 10p (4.221p) per share.

On a CCA basis, profits are reduced to £988,000 (£526,000) after extra depreciation £36,000 (£24,000), cost of sales adjustment £244,000 (£231,000) less gearing £24,000 (£79,000).

The science educational companies had a satisfactory year, Mr. Russell states, with record exports of £8.7m, but the group's medical company had a difficult year.

The chairman says that the initial expense of setting up a new distribution depot was borne during the year, part of the expense of opening a second, and the whole cost of preparation and printing of a new comprehensive medical catalogue.

He believes that the benefits which will accrue from these actions, together with the resolving of the unsatisfactory trading situation, plus other measures, will produce a more pleasing result in the current year.

## A FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 14 1979

The Financial Times proposes to publish a survey on Telecommunications. The main headings of the provisional editorial synopsis are set out below. The survey will appear one week prior to "Telecom 79" in Geneva.

## INTRODUCTION

Recent developments in world telecommunications summarised. The major trend: the continued move towards digital electronic switching. Plans of developing and developed countries. The size of the world switching and transmission markets. Market growth trends worldwide.

## HOW A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM WORKS

## THE BRITISH POST OFFICE AND UK TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN EUROPE

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE U.S.

## MAJOR MANUFACTURERS AND THEIR MARKETS

## TRANSMISSION

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKERS

## COMMUNICATIONS THEORY — FACT OR FANTASY?

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## FINANCIAL TIMES

The content, size and publication dates of Surveys in the Financial Times are subject to change at the discretion of the Editor.

THE BRITISH &  
COMMONWEALTH  
SHIPPING COMPANY  
LIMITED.

## Financial Highlights

Year ended 31st December	1978	1977
Revenue	256,100	238,100
Profit before Taxation	26,589	29,312
Profit before extraordinary items	8,473	11,181
Earnings per Ordinary Stock Unit of 50p	26.2p	34.5p
Dividends per Ordinary Stock Unit of 50p (net)	10.5878p	9.33347p

At the Annual General Meeting on July 25th the Chairman Sir W. Nicholas Cayzer, Bt., made the following remarks which are supplementary to his statement which accompanied the Accounts:

I do not think that there is a great deal which I can add to the general content of my published Statement in which I reviewed the performance of our various activities. The difficulties inherent in the business of international transport, whether it be by sea or in the air, do not lessen — the effects of the ever increasing price of fuel, and the energy crisis generally, are hazards which have to be faced, not only so far as they increase our operating costs, but also from the damaging effect which the inevitable passing on of such increases may have upon the respective trades.

In shipping, it is pleasing that rates seem to be maintaining a more realistic level for the time being and, although the weakness of the dollar is not helpful when earnings require to be expressed in sterling, there would seem to be reasonable hope that the current year will see a return to a degree of profitability after a difficult year which our management handled well as a first time without the Mail Service and our extensive South African cargo trade.

Before I leave the subject of shipping I must refer, sadly, to the frustrations which we still endure as a result of the decision to build our two product carriers in a British yard. These two product carriers are getting on for two years late on their delivery dates. Unless at some future time reason is to prevail whereby delivery dates may be met, I can see little likelihood of normal commercial conditions of further orders being obtained by any of these British yards, now grouped under British Shipbuilders, who once had a reputation second to none in the world. I have no more to say on this subject other than to express regret that, due to industrial action — which is being firmly dealt with by the yard management with our full support — we were unable to fulfil the considerable arrangements we had made for the launch of the "SCOTTISH EAGLE" some two weeks ago. It is still our understanding that both ships are due for delivery in 1979.

I have spoken about certain aspects as they concern our two principal activities and I feel reasonably confident about the trading prospects in our other areas of influence although, of course, their eventual achievements will also be subject to the usual factors which are completely outside our control.

As we are now fairly well diversified and account for the results of Associated Companies, some of which are substantial, it is that much harder to give an accurate forecast of the current year's profit than if we were engaged in one trade. We are also only at the half-way stage, and I cannot do better than reiterate what I said in my Statement that the results of the current year overall should not be dissimilar from those of 1978.

I mentioned that we welcomed the end of dividend restraint, but the projected date for the declaration of our Final Dividend for 1978 meant that the restrictions still applied to that Dividend. Dividend controls have been with us for some years now and, in common with all other public companies, we have again got to get used to the idea that we are now free to decide our own ground rules for the payment of dividends to our Shareholders appropriate to the circumstances at any one time. I have no doubt that, as individualism begins to reassert itself once more, there will be some divergence in such policies as between respective companies. We shall give the matter thought when considering the rate of the Interim Dividend for the current year and, although I would not wish to feel committed in any way, as a lot can happen between now and November, I would think it fair to say that some increase in the rate would seem to be justifiable.

World economics and Government policy must play a part in the results that we achieve for our Company. Since we last met we have had a change of Government, and we now have a Government that believes in a free economy and, as far as possible, market forces being allowed to work. This is a sharp departure from the former Government's policies, although they found during their years of office that the

conception of the Corporate State which they tended to work towards was too expensive even for them to bear. Hence, half-way through their term of office, they had to turn to the IMF, which resulted in a much more monetarist approach to the economy. Of course, unless you become a communist state, the market mechanism is the only thing that really works. There are areas in which the State provides services — and in some cases services which might not otherwise be satisfactorily supplied — but these can never be truly economic as the incentive to be sparing in their use is removed and, as a result, such services demand more and more in resources and manpower; this is because they appear to be free and, human nature being what it is, the demand becomes unlimited.

I believe we have to re-think our policies in regard to the services that the Government provides. The more work that can be put out to competitive contract the better, as it is likely to be cheaper. It must not be forgotten that the market supplies a very large part of our wants at a price that we are prepared to pay, and still ends up with a profit. It is able to do it far better than any State monopoly. Something for nothing will never produce either efficient or economic services.

The other important aspect of our affairs is that we are not producing enough, and pay should be relative to production. If we pay ourselves more than we earn we either have to print money, which is highly inflationary, or raise taxes, or let the extra cost of higher wages come through into prices.

I hope and believe this Government will have the courage to face these facts. I have no doubt that the Unions will find it difficult to accept, but unless industry increases output, there cannot be increased pay without the inevitable inflation. I am greatly saddened when I look back on the disruption of last winter, which the combination of a Socialist Government and Trade Unions were quite unable to remedy. It was a strange and sorry sight to witness the Trade Union leadership destroy any chances the Government they profess to favour had of getting a majority in the General Election that followed.

The modest Trade Union reforms now proposed are timely, not only in the interests of the public, but also in the interests of Union leaders themselves who find it difficult, if not impossible, to implement any voluntary agreement. All that is really being asked is that the Unions, like every citizen, should be subject to the law of the land without undue privilege. I think it has been a long established principle to be wary of the accumulation of too much power in the hands of any one section of our community without accountability. Clashes over this point have been the anvil on which our democracy has been forged. So I believe there must be rules, and rules that are quite clear, for both employers and Unions, if the public interest is to be safeguarded — and clearly the electorate had this in mind when they returned the present Government to power in the May Election.

Now it is my hope that good sense and realism will transcend the kind of internecine warfare that we all witnessed last winter, and which has cost us so much. It cannot be said too often that our standard of living does not depend on any Government but, given the opportunities and incentives, on ourselves. We can, if we wish, improve it. What the Government has to do is to ensure the economic use of the taxpayers' money in the public sector of the economy.

This is the time of year when I look back on a year's work, and it is always a pleasure for me to express my thanks, and those of my colleagues on the B & C Board, to all who work in the Group for all they have done over the years to put this Company on the map. We continue in good heart, firmly believing that, if circumstances outside our immediate control permit, we can make our way forward and hopefully increase our profits over the years to the benefit of all who work in the Group, to the Shareholders and to the Country.

For a copy of the Report and Accounts telephone 01-283 4343 (Ext. 235) or write to the Company at Cayzer House, 2-4 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP.

## Y.J. LOVELL (HOLDINGS) LTD.

## INTERIM STATEMENT FOR HALF-YEAR TO 31 MARCH 1979

The results of the Lovell Group for the half-year to 31 March 1979:	6 months to 31.3.79	6 months to 31.3.78	12 months to 30.9.78
Turnover	£1,738	£1,738	£1,738
Trading Profit	£665	£665	£665
Construction & Related Activities	£5,755	£5,755	£5,755
Timber Division	£47,493	£47,493	£47,493
Less Inter-division sales	257	257	257
Group profit before taxation	815	717	1,929

The Directors are pleased to report that, despite the effects of a very bad winter and halting strike when a number of sites were closed and housing starts delayed, the Group as a whole shows an improvement in trading profit of 14% over the first half of last year.

It is anticipated on the basis of present performance, and taking these factors into account, that improvement of the Group's profit growth will be maintained in the second half of the year.

An interim dividend of 1.5p per share payable on 1 October 1979 to Ordinary Shareholders on the Register on 24 August 1979 in respect of the year to 30 September 1979 is proposed.

25 July 1979.

Edbro output at record level  
as demand exceeds capacity

Mr. Lawrence Tindale, chairman of Edbro (Holdings) reports that production in April and May has been at record levels and has been at a rate well above capacity. A further increase in output will come about as a result of plant recently commissioned.

However, the chairman points out that it is still difficult to adjust prices to cover cost increases and the sterling dollar rate is even higher than in 1978-79.

The group plans to reconstruct the European operation this year and it is possible that this may have some adverse bearing on the short term.

Looking ahead, Mr. Tindale feels that most of the work currently being done should put the group in a stronger position.

In the year ended March 31, 1979, group profit before tax was £1,738,000 against £1,738,000 on a turnover of £22,870,000 against £22,870,000. The chairman explains

that the transport strike and continued strengthening of the pound cut into margins. A considerable amount of the group's trade is dollar related.

On the development side the group continued to introduce new automated machinery but the timetable here was also disrupted by the transport strike, aggravating already late delivery from suppliers. It was not until after the year end that the group benefited from the increased output for the major part of the year's capital programme.

This affected profit but also led the group short of output which had been sold forward in anticipation. These new items of plant are now operating and contributing in the current year.

The group's balance sheet remains strong — cash stood at £1.17m (£1.65m) while overdrafts were down from £3.06m to £1.8m. The chairman says that the large

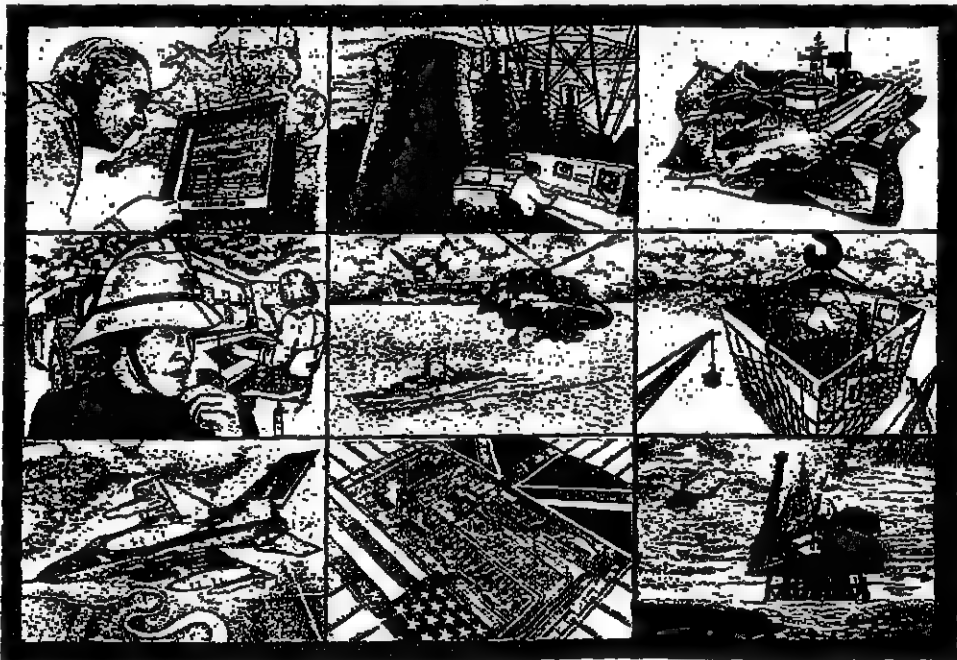
spending on capital account was substantially covered by two term loans totalling £2.25m and the balance of generated profit has gone to improve the net current asset position from £7.06m to £8.99m at March 31.

A current cost statement shows an adjusted profit before tax of £2.14m (£2.73m), after additional depreciation £238,000 (£243,000), cost of sales £246,000 (£277,000), less gearing adjustment £206,000 (£87,000).

Meeting Charing Cross Hotel, Strand, August 23 at noon.

## Bismuth down

NEW YORK — Asarco said yesterday it had lowered the price for bismuth by 50c a lb. to \$3 a lb effective immediately. Reuters.



## This year...

Ferranti ordinary stock was admitted to The Stock Exchange and Ferranti equipment worth nearly £200 million was supplied to users of Ferranti technology. Forty per cent of this was exported.

Profits advanced, particularly on the electronics side of the business and a high level of capital spending was maintained in this area, sustaining the company's policy of making technology earn its keep.

British Gas for their National Control System; the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force; Greater Manchester Fire Service; North Sea oil companies; Britain's power stations and British industry, US, German and Japanese users of micro-electronics; NATO Armed Services.

These are typical of Ferranti customers this year — and every year:

Financial Summary	1979	1978
£M	£M	£M
Turnover	192.1	156.9
Trading Profit	12.6	11.0
Profit before taxation	9.9	9.1
Capital employed	77.1	72.3
Stockholders' funds	54.7	48.2
Return on capital employed	16.6 %	14.5 %
Return on stockholders' funds	18.2 %	18.9 %
Earnings per ordinary stock unit	42.22p	38.08p
Dividend per ordinary stock unit	5.75p	2.21p

FERRANTI  
Selling technology

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## AECI LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

**Directors:** H. F. Oppenheimer (Chairman), W. B. Duncan (Deputy Chairman), Alternate: D. C. Ingman, D. N. Marvin (Managing Director), R. A. Webb (Deputy Managing Director), Sir Keith Acutt K.B.E., Alternate: Dr. M. G. M. Atmore, S. A. G. Anderson, R. Haslam, Alternate: Dr. P. J. P. Roberts, J. A. Holmes, G. W. H. Rely, E. J. Smale, D. W. Swarbrick, G. M. Thomas, J. Ogilvie Thompson, W. V. van der Byl, J. P. Wapenaar, W. H. Wishart, D. J. Wood.

### INTERIM REPORT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 1979

#### 1. Trading results

The directors announce the unaudited trading results of the Group for the six months ended 30th June 1979 as follows:

1978	1979		1978	1979
Year	First half	Turnover	Year	First half
R millions	R millions		R millions	R millions
703.5	332.7	Turnover	703.5	332.7
95.3	40.1	Net income before taxation	95.3	40.1
32.8	14.5	Less: Taxation	32.8	14.5
62.5	25.6	Net income	62.5	25.6
5.2	3.0	Less:	5.2	3.0
		Tax savings arising from investment allowances transferred to non-distributable reserves		
4.5	2.5	Attributable to:	4.5	2.5
		Preference shareholders		
0.7	0.5	and minority shareholders of subsidiaries	0.7	0.5
		Net income attributable to ordinary shareholders		
57.3	22.6		57.3	22.6
		Earnings per ordinary share		
38.9c	15.2c		38.9c	15.2c

#### 2. Dividends

Preference dividend No. 83 at the rate of 5.5 per cent per annum for the six months ended 18th June 1979 has been declared and paid.

The Board has declared an interim ordinary dividend of 12 cents per share (1978-10 cents).

#### 3. Comments

Group turnover for the six months ended 30th June 1979 totalled R394.3 million, an increase of R61.6 million (15.5 per cent) over the corresponding period of 1978. Export sales included in the above totalled R28.3 million (1978-R23.8 million). Group net income before taxation for the half year at R50.4 million showed an increase of 23.7 per cent over the corresponding figure for 1978. Earnings per share increased from 15.2 cents to 20.1 cents.

In the domestic market the volume of sales increased by 6 per cent over the first half of 1978 with all sectors, other than agriculture, showing improvement. The volume of nitrogenous fertiliser sales was slightly lower because of the drought over large areas of the summer rainfall region.

During the period the Coalplex joint venture, in which AECI has a 60% interest, achieved a positive cash flow. All plants in the complex continued to operate satisfactorily and PVC exports totalled 18,500 tons. With growing local demand and hardening export prices prospects for Coalplex are much improved.

The outlook is clouded by the international oil situation and the ever increasing prices of ethylene and other oil based feedstocks. However, unless there is a downturn in the South African economy, it is expected that profits for the second half-year should exceed those earned for the corresponding period of 1978.

On behalf of the Board  
H. F. OPPENHEIMER  
D. N. MARVIN  
Directors

**Transfer Secretaries:**  
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited,  
62 Marshall Street,  
Johannesburg 2001

**Charter Consolidated Limited,**  
Charter House, Park Street,  
Ashford, Kent, TN24 5EQ.  
England.  
28th July 1979

**Registered Office:**  
16th Floor, Office Tower,  
Carlton Centre,  
Johannesburg.  
2001

## "ERF Limited-increased its turnover by 19.5% and produced over 3,000 vehicles in the year for the first time"

... says ERF's Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Peter Foden

#### Results at a glance

	1978	1979	Per Cent Change
TURNOVER	68,194	81,300	+19.5%
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	3,342	3,276	-2.0%
EARNINGS PER ORDINARY SHARE	45.15p	45.52p	+0.8%
TOTAL ORDINARY DIVIDEND	3.4025p	2.4316p	-29.4%

With the exception of January and February, the U.K. vehicle market remained buoyant and unit sales increased by 14.3%, giving us an increased penetration in the over 28-ton weight category.

The world energy crisis and the uncertain economic future create problems for the planners, but we have every reason to be optimistic in the long term as

there is no real alternative to road transport in the foreseeable future.

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement to the Shareholders, 1979



**ERF Trailblazers**  
-the best of buying British-

ERF (Holdings) Limited, Sun Works, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 9DN  
Telephone: Sandbach (093 67) 3223. Telex: 36152. Grams: ERF Sandbach

## Companies and Markets

## BIDS AND DEALS

# Lawrie Plants. sells some Indian Assets for £3.8m

BY JAMES BARTHOLOMEW

Lawrie Plantations Holdings, one of the more important parts of the network of companies loosely known as the Camellia group, has sold some of its Indian tea estates for £3.8m. This is one of the very few deals in Indian estates to have taken place in the UK in recent years. Dealers said that the sale gave a welcome price guide for Indian tea interests.

"This is a very, very good deal," said Mr. Nicholas Grant, of Duncan Lawrie, the merchant bank which often acts for members of the Camellia group. It was done at the instigation of the buyer, Frendal, which made an offer Lawrie found too good to resist, he said.

Lawrie said yesterday that it intended to continue with its tea plantation businesses but that the proceeds from the sale of these particular estates would be invested to enhance UK income. Joka Tea Holdings is the Lawrie subsidiary holding the estates. It was one of the two companies which were merged only last month to create Lawrie Plantations, the other one being Longbourn Holdings. But all Joka's interests apart from the Indian tea estates have been stripped out of it. Joka Tea Holdings' predominant remaining stake is its 74 per cent in Joka India, which owns the estates.

Out of the total consideration of £3.8m, all but £200,000 has already been received in cash. The buyer is entitled to remittances due from India which have not yet been received. Lawrie has given a warranty that it will meet any liabilities which may arise out of the claim by the Indian authorities that tax is owed on commissions paid by Joka to its London agents in previous years. The book value of the assets sold was about £2.8m on March 31. The attributable after-tax profit of Joka India was £618,092 for the year up to that date and the gross dividend receivable by Joka Tea Holdings was £234,772.

The market in tea shares has become so narrow in recent years that little activity resulted from the new Lawrie Plantations itself rose 2p to 40p and Warren Plantations rose 6p to 14p.

#### STONE-PLATT

Stone-Platt Industries has acquired 80 per cent of the equity of Johnston Boiler Company, of Michigan, U.S. The value of the net assets acquired is \$0.75m.

Johnston makes a range of fluidised bed combustion boilers burning coal and waste fuel.

Stone-Platt claims the U.S. company is the world leader in small fluidised bed shell boilers, with orders which include a 20,000 lb/h boiler for IBM, a 40,000 lb/h boiler for Central Soya and a wood chip burner for Herman Furniture.

## Jon King £5m profit on share sale

Jon King (Commodities), a U.S.-owned investment trust based in Jersey, has made a profit of almost £5m through the sale of its 21.4 per cent stake in Brown and Jackson, the building and civil engineering group. Having paid around £400,000 for its holding early in 1976 when the British construction cycle was at its low point, Jon King has now received 250p for its stake of 21.4m shares for a total of £5.3m. Brokers Rowe and Pitman placed the holding with a wide range of institutions; the disposal was arranged by Samuel Montagu.

The sale leaves Prestamp Engineering as the major shareholder in Brown and Jackson with 29.6 per cent, followed by London Trust with 10 per cent. Shares of Brown and Jackson sagged on the news of the sale, closing at 250p for a drop of 18p.

#### TRAFALGAR BUYS 34 ACRES

Trafalgar House has completed the purchase of S. R. and W. D. Whitmore with its wholly owned subsidiary, Whitmore Developments. The total consideration is £1,335,000 payable in three equal instalments and is to be satisfied in whole by the issue to the vendors of 10p per share unsecured loan stock 3001-06 of Trafalgar House.

The principal assets of the two companies are some 27 acres of residential development land at Wollaton, Nottingham, and seven acres at Ravenshead, Nottingham.

#### HARRIS/HARDY

Harris Queensway has received acceptances in respect of 6.23m ordinary and 7.76m "A" ordinary shares in Hardy and Co. Furnishers, representing 95.8 per cent and 63.3 per cent respectively.

The offer of Harris for Hardy, is now unconditional.

#### WESTERN MOTOR

S. Hicks and Son, the car distributor, has agreed to sell the premises and assets of its Luton branch to W. Mum-

ford of Plymouth, a subsidiary of Western Motor Holdings. The value of the assets to be purchased by Mumford is approximately £175,000 payable in full on completion.

#### ST. GEORGE PAYS £0.5M FOR SECURITY CENTRES

St. George Assets, whose Sri Lanka tea plantation estates were nationalised, is to return from its suspension in February, as a security service company. St. George has agreed to acquire Security Centres for £500,000 consisting of 2,352,941 shares valued at 17p each and £100,000 in cash. The name will ultimately be changed to Security Centres Holdings. Security Centres specialises in the design, installation and service of burglar and fire alarms, closed circuit television, perimeter protection and access control systems. It has concentrated in Northern Ireland but obtained a London base in March through the acquisition of Bunch Alarms. Dealings are expected to recommence on Tuesday, July 31.

#### BP ACQUIRES REST OF VIKOMA

BP has acquired the remaining 50 per cent interest in Vikoma International, which was previously held by Vickers. Vikoma, which has operated for three years, markets a range of oil spill containment and recovery equipment and industrial oil skimmers.

#### GRAYSTON £1M PURCHASE

Grayston Group has purchased from Bovis the entire capital of Tasker and Booth the scaffolding company for £1m. Tasker and Booth gives a comprehensive scaffolding contract and hire service from depots at Wembley, Stoke Newington, Manchester and Newport (South Wales).

This latest acquisition means that Grayston now operates some 30 scaffolding depots in the UK. A spokesman for the company indicated that further new depots and acquisitions are likely in the near future. The ultimate holding company of Grayston is British Electric Traction, while Bovis is part of P and O.

#### FRANCIS PARKER

Electra Investment Trust holds a stake of 5 per cent in Francis Parker, the aggregates producer. Electra is the beneficial owner of 1.5m ordinary shares (5.04 per cent).

## Britannic supports Bestobell

Britannic Assurance, the largest holder of Bestobell's shares, has thrown its support behind the Bestobell board in its rejection of the £26m bid from BTR.

In a brief statement issued last night, Mr. Sandy Marshall, chairman of Bestobell, said that Britannic, which holds 10 per cent of the ordinary shares of Bestobell, had informed him during the afternoon that, after considering BTR's offer, and Bestobell's response, they had decided "to stay with Bestobell". As foreshadowed in its rejection document, which urged shareholders to resist the BTR bid, Bestobell has set up a new management structure comprising four operating groups in the UK.

The new operating groups are paints, chemicals and home products; energy engineering, aviation and seals; and controls and instrumentation. They are headed respectively by Mr. F. R. Ward-Lee, Mr. J. D. S. Smith, Mr. D. F. Denny, and Mr. G. G. Woodhead. Back-up and control is provided by a small executive group directed by Mr. Sandy Marshall, the group chairman.

#### SHARE STAKES

Investment - Lord Farington, director, on July 20 sold 40,000 ordinary shares, at 51p and bought 40,000 "B" ordinary at 77p.

Harris and Sheldon Group - L. Weller, director, has disposed of 50,000 shares at 40p. Holding now 126 per cent.

Barton and Sons - Prudential Assurance has acquired 100,000 shares making holding 1,399,793 shares (6.21 per cent).

Grange Trust - Courtauld's Pensioners Common Investment Fund is interested in 244,000 shares (8.5 per cent) registered in name of Courtauld's (CIF) Nominees.

Lake View Investment Trust - Kuwait Investment Office has acquired 220,000 shares making holding 2,615,000 (11.8 per cent).

F. S. Ratcliffe Industries - West Bromwich Spring Co. has bought further shares, making holding 75,000 shares.

General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation - Kuwait Investment Office on July 13 had increased its holding by 78,000 to 1,250,000 shares (7.6 per cent). Head Executive - A. E. Reed, chairman, has bought 33,000 shares for one of his non-beneficial trusts, a charitable trust - J. S. Reed - making this trust's holding 38,000 shares. Marlborough Property Holdings - A. S. Jolliffe, director, between June 13 and July 4 sold 100,000 shares between 36p and 38p. Beneficial interest in voting shares now 1,650,908 shares.

## Coal output up in North-east

THE North-East's 34,000 miners have achieved their best results so far this financial year in a major increase in pre-holiday production.

The 1,000 men at Durham's Vane Tempest Colliery have achieved a new pit productivity record of 2,927 tonnes-a-man shift. Their previous best of 2,804 tonnes was recorded in May.

Figures released yesterday by the National Coal Board show that the North-East's saleable output for the week ending July 14 was 297,746 tonnes - 17,746 tonnes or 6 per cent above the coalfield's weekly target.

At the time it was expected that a response would be received from the Chinese within a month. This did not materialise and still has not done so in the case of the Sel-tung group.

The Charter-CJB group, however, recently received an invitation to return to Peking for further talks and these are now taking place. The four developments involved are a lead-zinc venture at Qinghai Province, tin at Yunnan Province, tungsten at Hunan Province and cobalt at Hainan Island.

Agnew Clough said that Nisho-Iwai had agreed to accept an initial minimum supply of 500 tonnes of vanadium pentoxide flakes a year over a seven-year period beginning next April.

The vanadium, valued at about A\$5,200 per tonne, would be shipped from Fremantle to Japan where it would be converted into ferro-vanadium and used in the production of high strength, low alloy steel.

The Wundowie plant, first approved in 1973 but held up because of poor demand for vanadium, has a capacity of 1,620 tonnes a year. Nisho-Iwai has indicated that it might take up to half the output with the balance being sold in Europe and the U.S.

## MINING NEWS

# Homestake has gold problems

BY PAUL CHEESBRIGHT

HOMESTAKE MINING, the oldest of the U.S. gold producers, has been unable to draw much

benefit from this year's surge in the bullion price. Its half-year figures, published yesterday, showed that although the group as a whole had a 70 per cent increase in net income, gold profits from its South Dakota operations were down.

But problems in the U.S. have been offset to some extent by a vastly improved performance by Kalgoorlie Mining Associates, the Western Australia gold consortium in which Homestake has a 48 per cent stake.

Homestake had total net income in the June quarter of \$11.4m (£5m) against \$6.3m in the same period of 1978, bringing first half earnings to \$22.8m compared with \$13.4m in the first six months of last year.

At the Homestake mine in South Dakota the average price received in the first half was \$45.59 an ounce, or \$70.27 more than in the comparable period. But lower production and higher costs arose from the loss of hoisting capacity in a main production shaft. This and the costs of a new labour contract caused first half pretax profits to fall to \$1.3m from \$2.7m.

Homestake's share of the pretax income of KMA, however, was \$2.9m, a sharp increase on its share of \$208,000 in the 1978 first half. The rising fortunes of KMA became apparent in April when Kalgoorlie, Lake View, which holds the remaining 52 per cent, paid a first dividend to its shareholders - Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie, Poseidon Investments and Western Mining.

In the year to June, KMA, whose operations are based on the Mount Charlotte Mine, lifted output by 37 per cent, according to a Melbourne statement from Poseidon. Output was 115,701 ounces of gold compared with 84,281 ounces in 1977-78.

The role of gold in Homestake's fortunes has declined as

diversification has taken place and, in the 1979 first half, pretax revenue from lead and zinc was \$24.7m, showing a dramatic boost from the \$5.3m earned in the 1978 first half as sales and prices strengthened.

The situation was reversed with uranium, where lower sales forced a fall in Homestake's pretax revenue to \$6.2m from \$10.2m.

For the rest of the year, Homestake offers qualified optimism. The prospects are excellent, it said, but a dividend for metal prices.

#### Falconbridge Copper

FIRST-HALF net profits of Canada's Falconbridge Copper - 50.2 per cent owned by Falconbridge Nickel - have jumped to \$815.7m (£5.9m), or \$1.21 per share, from \$633.3m, or 25 cents per share, in the same period of last year.

Higher prices were received in the latest period for all metals produced - copper, zinc, lead, silver and gold - and the company was able to mine more of its lower grade ore. Development work, however, continued to be delayed by a shortage of skilled miners.

#### Charter talks again in China

REPRESENTATIVES of Charter-CJB Mineral Services are again having talks in Peking on proposals for the development of mineral projects in the Peoples Republic of China.

#### Wundowie to go ahead

WORK HAS started on the long-delayed Australian vanadium project at Perth, following the signing of an A\$13m (£3.9m) contract with Japan's Nisho-Iwai.

Agnew Clough said that Nisho-Iwai had agreed to accept an initial minimum supply of 500 tonnes of vanadium pentoxide flakes a year over a seven-year period beginning next April.

The vanadium, valued at about A\$5,200 per tonne, would be shipped from Fremantle to Japan where it would be converted into ferro-vanadium and used in the production of high strength, low alloy steel.

The Wundowie plant, first approved in 1973 but held up because of poor demand for vanadium, has a capacity of 1,620 tonnes a year. Nisho-Iwai has indicated that it might take up to half the output with the balance being sold in Europe and the U.S.

# COALITE GROUP

The principal activities of the group consist of production of the reactive solid smokeless fuel 'Coalite', oil refining and chemicals manufacture, fuel distribution, vehicle building and distribution, transport, warehousing and shipping services, builders merchanting, instrument manufacture, and wool production.

	1979	1978
£000	£000	£000
External sales	278,053	168,319
Profit before tax	17,815	16,319
Tax	5,910	7,829
Profit after tax	11,905	8,490
Dividends	2,265	2,057
Earnings per share	16.15p	13.06p

"The Company's newly established broader base, increased stake in the energy market and strong balance sheet provide firm ground for confidence in our ability to withstand any short term strains along the road towards continued profitable growth."

Ward of Willey, Chairman.

## GENERAL MINING GROUP THE GRIQUALAND EXPLORATION AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Issued Capital - R597,500 in 11,950,000 shares of 5 cents each

REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE 1979

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF THE GROUP

	Quarter ended 30.6.79	Quarter ended 31.3.79	Financial year ended 30.6.79	Previous financial year ended 30.6.78
Operating results				
Development - metres	1,287	1,147	2,404	2,708
Ore milled - tons	96,000	90,000	186,000	250,000
Fibre produced - tons	12,614	12,972	25,538	34,490
Percentage fibre recovered	12.7	14.4	13.5	13.8
Revenue per ton	R244.6	R242.2	R244.8	R250.5
Production costs per ton	R271.7	R252.8	R262.0	R228.4
Selling costs per ton	R110.9	R109.1	R110.1	R109.6
Financial results				
Operating profit	R200	R200	R200	R200
Profit after tax from non-mining subsidiaries	2,153	2,136	4,288	5,282
	20	45	65	183
Less: Interest and sundries	2,173	2,180	4,353	5,464
Currency losses	185	171	366	(123)
	21	46	87	-
Profit before taxation	1,957	1,953	3,920	5,342
Provision for taxation	40	52	94	1,242
Net profit after taxation	1,951	1,921	3,927	4,000
Capital expenditure	465	217	683	733
Prospecting expenditure	119	94	213	299
Loan Levy	39	51	80	192

Notes

- Consolidated results are given, as information relating to the company only could be misleading.
- Financial results are based on actual share shipments which vary from month to month and do not necessarily bear a pro-rata relationship to production and sales for the year. Because of a distinct seasonal pattern in asbestos sales, results for the quarter under review should, preferably, be compared with those of the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year.
- Operating results relate to the activities of group mines only, while financial results reflect sales of fibre from group mines as well as sales of other products.
- Interim dividend No. 86 of 20 cents per share was declared on 6 June 1979, payable on 23 August 1979 to shareholders registered on 23 June 1979.

On behalf of the Board  
C. H. WALTERS  
L. K. JOOSTE  
Directors

Registered Office:  
6 Holland Street,  
Johannesburg 2001.  
26 July 1979

London Office:  
96 Gresham Street,  
London, EC2V 7EN.

## May & Hassell Limited

(Timber Importers)

Statement by the Chairman

Mr J H B Atley

Year ended 31st March, 1979

THE PRE-TAX PROFITS of £24,000 represent a significant recovery and are achieved after absorbing an Associated Company (Hallam Group of Nottingham Ltd.) loss of £432,000 and a loss in the South African subsidiary of £195,000. The taxation credit of £778,000 includes Consortium Relief on the Associated



## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Braithwaite hit by loss at West Bromwich works

**PROFITS BEFORE tax** of Braithwaite, and Company Engineers, bridge and constructional engineer, slumped from £1.02m to £528,712 for the year ended March 31, 1979, on reduced turnover of £12.5m, against £11.78m. The surplus, however, would have been over £1.2m without the losses incurred by the West Bromwich works, the closure of which was announced in April.

In December, when reporting first-half profits, directors said the world recession in major construction projects showed no improvement and had depressed profitability. The second half result was expected to be similar to that then reported.

They now say the fabrication of the retaining contracts at West Bromwich are expected to be complete in the autumn, after which the plant and freehold will be sold. Redundancy and compensation payments have been mutually agreed.

The Newport works had a satisfactory year, fabricating lighter steelwork and pressed steel tanks mainly for export. Plastic Recycling, acquired in April 1978, made a loss, but production and sales progress have been encouraging and the company is expected to make a contribution to group profits next year.

After tax of £235,500 (£100,000) and extraordinary dividend of £246,887 this time, there was a turnaround from an £84,545 deficit.

Earnings per £1 share before extraordinary items are given down from 17.3p to 10.5p, while a final dividend of 2.62p raises the total net payment from

1.28p to 4.87p.

An extraordinary charge of £883,500 represents the estimated total cost of £1.3m less tax of running down the West Bromwich works, including redundancy and termination payments to employees. The provision is reduced by an anticipated surplus on realisation of assets.

A 25p stock relief credit this time is a deferred tax provision relating to relief arising from increases in stocks and work in progress during the two years to March 31, 1979, and no longer required.

## Foreign and Colonial ahead in first half

For the first half of 1979, revenue of the Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust advanced from £2.45m to £2.1m, subject to tax of £1.22m against £0.95m.

To reduce disparity, the net interim dividend is effectively lifted from 0.25p to 1p per 25p share, absorbing £1.31m (£0.82m).

Last year's total was an equivalent 2.25p on £5.23m pre-tax revenue.

At the half year, net asset value per share is shown at 113.2p (114.3p at December 31, 1978).

Gross revenue increased from £4.6m to £4.74m. Management expenses and interest charges took £1.64m (£1.67m).

## CRESCENT JAPAN

For 1978 Crescent Japan Investment Trust paid a 1.3p net

dividend per share. In yesterday's edition it was incorrectly reported that the Trust had not yet paid any dividends.

## Albion up £145,000 at halfway

**PRE-TAX** profits of Albion, mens' outerwear manufacturer, rose sharply from £208,000 to £353,000 for the half year ended March 31, 1979, and the directors are confident that profits for full year will show a satisfactory increase.

For 1977-78 the group recovered from losses of £39,000 to a £502,000 profit.

A 1p (0.8p) net interim dividend is announced—last year's final payment was 1p per 20p share.

The attributable balance for the six months came through at £500,000 compared with a previous £24,000 after tax £164,000 (£108,000) and an extraordinary credit of £214,000 (nil), relating to the sale of a subsidiary's factory.

## First-half recovery at M. Mole

M. Mole and Son, manufacturer of hand tools and trailers, turned in a £11,583 profit in the six months to June 30, 1979, compared with a loss of £48,697 in the second half of the previous year. In the last first half, there was a £104,486 surplus.

Half-yearly turnover was lower at £224,000, against £106m. There is again no tax charge.

The directors say further reorganisation and rationalisation is planned, involving substantial redundancies which have been agreed in principle with the union concerned.

This, together with general economic uncertainties, high interest rates and the strong pound make forecasting difficult, they add. But the cumulative effects seem likely to have an adverse impact on second-half results.

At the annual meeting last month, the auditors, Joffe Cork and Co., were not re-elected. The directors said then they intended to appoint their successors very shortly.

## Y. Lovell higher at six months

**TAXABLE PROFITS** of Y. J. Lovell (Holdings), building contractor, etc., went ahead from £717,000 to £815,000 for the half year to March 31, 1979, on turnover some £17m higher at £47.25m.

Despite a winter setback the directors say they are confident that profit growth will be maintained in the second six months. For the previous full year, pre-tax surplus reached £1.93m (£1.71m).

The net interim dividend is maintained at 1.5p per 25p share—last year's final was 1.85p.

## Confidence at Haslemere Estates

In his annual report, Mr. F. E. Cleary, chairman of Haslemere Estates, says he is still optimistic as to the group's future and he believes the current year will again prove to be yet another period of profitable expansion.

In the year ended March 31, 1979, profits before tax increased from £2.83m to £4.13m on total income of £10.45m against £8.58m.

Property trading profits of £1.44m (£531,000) reflect the sale of the Munch development and while it is intended to continue making trading profits, these are likely to vary from year to year, the chairman says.

Properties in the course of development cost £6.57m and of this £3.71m represents developments being carried out without institutional partners and £2.86m the cost to the group of two developments with partners at Swanley and Reading.

The group is also continuing the programme of acquiring, restoring and letting completed buildings in prime positions in Central London and directors are pursuing the programme of developing industrial sites.

The annual valuation of Cluttons of completed property shows an increase of £24.47m to £146.2m, an increase of 20 per cent. Of this increase, £7.7m relates to properties valued for the first time and the balance to properties valued in 1978.

## ARLINGTON MOTOR

In a comment on Arlington Motor Holdings in yesterday's edition the figure of £725,000 given as the purchase price of the company should have included the increase in loans and overdrafts to £4.2m, and not charged to stock financing.

## UK ECONOMIC INDICATORS

**ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**—Indices of industrial production, manufacturing output (1975=100); engineering orders (1975=100); retail sales volume, retail sales value (1971=100); registered unemployment (excluding school leavers) and unfilled vacancies (000s). All seasonally adjusted.

	Incl. prod.	avg. output	avg. order	vol.	value	played	Vac.
1978							
1st qtr.	106.9	102.3	99	106.4	248.4	1,409	18.9
2nd qtr.	110.7	104.5	96	107.9	238.2	1,387	21.1
3rd qtr.	111.5	105.1	103	110.7	266.8	1,380	21.1
4th qtr.	109.9	102.5	111	111.7	273.0	1,340	23.0
1979							
1st qtr.	109.1	101.4	100	110.3	278.4	1,351	23.7
2nd qtr.	112.4	104.2	106	116.4	275.4	1,340	25.7
March	112.3	106.5	102	110.3	275.0	1,350	25.7
April	113.2	108.3	99	115.4	290.6	1,311	25.5
May	113.9	104.6			289.2	1,307	25.5
June						1,290	26.5
						1,278	26.5







## Foto-Quelle plans major foreign expansion

By Roger Boyce in Bonn

DESPITE THE poor state of the West German optics market, Foto-Quelle, the large photographic retailer, has increased its turnover by 15 per cent for the first half of 1979.

Foto-Quelle, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Schickelanz mail order group and the Europa market leader in photographic retailing, expects to extend its foreign sales gains for 1979, as a whole and as a result to reach a turnover of DM 528.3m (€290m) this year, compared to the DM 448.3m of 1978.

Herr Lothar Schmechtig, chief executive of Foto-Quelle, said that the prices of cameras, optical instruments and film processing had not kept pace with rising costs which had begun to squeeze the margins of its competitors. But the company made clear that due to its broader product range and strong overseas presence, it was managing to "escape the worst".

Foreign trade showed an increase of 25.9 per cent in the first half, due mainly to high sales growth in Holland and Austria. Foto-Quelle is planning to expand its outlets by 475 in Europe this year—this figure includes extensive franchising both at home and abroad—bringing the total number of retailing outlets to 1,200.

Herr Schmechtig warned that the second half would be difficult because of the energy crisis. This was expected to slow down growth and reduce the amount of consumer income available for luxury goods.

Foto-Quelle is investigating the possibilities of two main non-European markets at the moment. It is talking with the Chinese on the possibility of retailing Chinese instruments, such as microscopes and binoculars.

The company is also tentatively reaching out to the U.S. where it has 14 franchisees. It intends to test demand for its precision camera, the Revue.

Foto-Quelle intends to expand its operations in the U.S. if Revue sales prove to be successful.

## Profit rise for London bank

By Terry O'Connell

TIGHTENING INTEREST margins and the rise of sterling against the dollar have helped London and Continental Bankers pre-tax profit in check. The increase for 1978-79 is 9.3 per cent to £22.2m (\$51.1m).

The revenue was higher and the total loan portfolio expanded by a relatively modest 9 per cent. Lord Shawcross, the bank's chairman, also disclosed that S.G. Warburg and Co., the London merchant bank that acted as an adviser to London and Continental, had decided to sell its stake on a pro-rata basis to the other 11 shareholders. All are European co-operative banks who helped found London and Continental.

## Go-ahead for Sacilor-Pompey merger

By Terry Dodsworth in Paris

AFTER SEVERAL weeks of negotiations, Sacilor-Sollac, France's second largest heavy steel group, has succeeded in reaching agreement to take over the loss-making Aciéries de Pompey, one of the country's most important special steel companies.

Some financial details of the scheme still have to be worked out, but in principle Sacilor is expected to take over the assets of the company for a nominal sum, while coming to an agreement on extending debt and interest payments. Pompey's equity is held at present by two main groups of shareholders, Financiers de Pompey, which has 47 per cent, and the Societe d'Investissement et de Participation (SIP), which has 53 per cent, which

## UBS makes satisfactory start to current year

By John Wicks in Zurich

SATISFACTORY earnings and a further increase in assets are reported for the first half of 1979 by Union Bank of Switzerland, the country's second biggest bank.

Although business during the remainder of the year will be subject to various uncertainties, the trend indicates a slow but steady rise in balance-sheet total and "continuing good profits," the Zurich-based bank declares.

No profit figures are given for the half year. The bank reports an improvement in interest earnings due to increased lending in the medium and long-term sector and to improved investment opportunities on the short term. However, the cut in the Swiss mortgage rate (from July 1) is having an unfavourable effect on trading in the current six months.

Commission income was at a high level, while the second quarter brought a "particularly gratifying" improvement in earnings from foreign-exchange and precious-metals trading. Income from letter-of-credit and guarantee business was up slightly in the second quarter, during which costs were kept within budget.

The bank's balance-sheet total reached SwFr 64.8bn at mid-year, compared with SwFr 60.35bn at the end of 1978. Deposits (due-to-customers total) rose by SwFr 1bn to SwFr 39.2bn, with fixed-term deposits up by as much as SwFr 2.4bn to SwFr 10.24bn, in the second quarter.

At the same time, sight deposits fell off by SwFr 1.3bn to SwFr 9.38bn during the April-June quarter. On the assets side of the balance sheet, loans to customers rose by SwFr 1.6bn in the quarter to reach a mid-year total of SwFr 29.4bn.

Handelsbank NW expects a satisfactory result for 1979. The bank, which is controlled by the National Westminster group, reports a favourable development of earnings in the first half-year, with increased income from interest and commissions, as well as from foreign-exchange and precious-metals trading. Assets rose by SwFr 175m during the half-year to SwFr 1.58bn.

## Amfas to acquire smaller rival

By Charles Batchelor in Amsterdam

AMFAS, one of the major Dutch insurance companies, is to acquire Eerste Hollandische Levensverzekeringbank through a cash offer. The company declined to confirm a report that the offer is Fl 28,000-30,000 per share, which would value the deal at Fl 40m (\$20m).

EHL is practically the last remaining medium-sized independent insurance company in the Netherlands, Amfas said.

The offer will be put to shareholders in EHL at a meeting on August 7 and Amfas will announce the result of the offer on August 28.

EHL has premium income of around Fl 23m a year with the emphasis on life business. It also owns a mortgage bank subsidiary, Noordwester Hypotheekbank, with a portfolio worth Fl 1.1m. EHL was originally a family-owned company whose shares are now in a limited number of hands. It employs around 300.

Premium income of Amfas last year was Fl 750m (\$376m) and net profits amounted to Fl 34.3m. The company employs 3,600.

## Denmark heads survey of most profitable companies

By Hilary Barnes in Copenhagen

THERE ARE 17 Danish companies in a list of the 30 most profitable companies in the Nordic area published yesterday. The list is topped by the Finnish state monopoly Alko.

Alko, with a return on capital of 29.9 per cent followed by IBM Denmark with a return of 27.9 per cent. The survey is published jointly by Copenhagen newspaper Berlingske and Swedish business magazine Veckans Affärer.

There is only one Finnish company in the list and a single Norwegian company. Of the 13 Swedish companies listed, IBM, Sweden, stores group Hennes and Mauritz and Rank Xerox are the most profitable.

Of the 30 are multi-national companies, while of the 17 Danish companies nine are agricultural co-operatives which have an atypical capital structure.

● Finnish national airline Finnair, suffered a loss of around FM 8.5m (\$1.4m) in revenue during the enforced grounding of its two DC-10 jets. "We used smaller DC-8s and chartered planes during the ban," the company explained.

## Unilever laboratory move

By Our Amsterdam Correspondent

UNILEVER, the Anglo-Dutch foodstuffs, detergents and consumer products group, plans to merge its two research laboratories in the Netherlands. It will close the laboratory at Duiven, near Arnhem, and transfer the staff of 175 to the larger facility at Vlaardingen, west of Rotterdam, where 980 are employed.

The company has acquired the assets and some of the operations of Lenderik, a subsidiary of the Naarden International Foodstuffs group, which makes protein derivatives for the food industry. A Unilever company, Food Industries, will take on 26 of the staff of 39 of Lenderik, which has a turnover of Fl 5m (\$2.5m).

The Fl 100m bond issue by Algemeene Bank Nederland is priced at par. Subscriptions for the 20-year bond carrying a coupon of 9½ per cent close tomorrow.

## Spain to tighten bank deposit rate practices

By David Gardner in Madrid

THE BANK OF SPAIN is to tighten up on the banking practice of paying premiums above official interest rates in order to attract deposits.

In a letter to all Spanish banks, the Central Bank reminds them that interest rates for deposits of less than one year are laid down by law, and that it will take steps to prevent any continuing payment of "extratips," as they are known.

The payment of extratips, though less prevalent than it used to be, has a distorting effect on the money market, as well as squeezing those banks which over-indulge in this system of paying unofficial, and often very high interest rates.

On the one hand credit becomes more costly at the same time that the stock market and public debt issues, to take just two examples, become hopelessly uncompetitive. The practice also cuts across plans to develop a medium- to long-term money market, the Central Bank argues.

The payment of extratips grew up during the process of industrialisation of the 1960s and early 1970s when banks were competing fiercely against one another to attract deposits. It continues to exist in the tight monetary situation being enforced at present.

New Issue

July 1979



\$40,000,000

## The Mitsubishi Bank, Limited (London Branch)

\$20,000,000

Negotiable Floating Rate Certificates of Deposit  
Maturity Date July 27, 1982

and

\$20,000,000

Negotiable Floating Rate Certificates of Deposit  
Maturity Date July 27, 1984

Arranged by

Orion Bank Limited

Mitsubishi Bank (Europe) S.A.

Agent Bank

Orion Bank Limited



## CONTINENTAL ILLINOIS CORPORATION

And Subsidiaries

## CONTINENTAL BANK

231 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60693, U.S.A.

Continental Illinois Corporation reported record earnings for both the second quarter and the first half of 1979.

Income before security transactions for the second quarter was \$45,823,000, a 14.2% increase over the same period in 1978. Income before security transactions for the first half of this year totaled \$92,970,000, a 15.7% gain over the first half of 1978.

Since 1962, when we opened our first European office, our assets have increased eightfold from \$4 billion to \$32.6 billion. Continental Illinois Corporation, with its major subsidiary, Continental Bank, is the seventh largest bank holding company in total assets in the United States, with over 100 offices in 31 countries. In Europe alone we have 20 offices staffed with specialists who are committed to serving the financial needs of the business community.

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Chairman of the Board of Directors

John H. Perkins  
President

Board of Directors  
Continental Illinois Corporation  
Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago

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BLAINE J. YARRINGTON  
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Consolidated Statement of Condition/June 30 (In millions, U.S. Dollars)			1979	1978
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and due from depository institutions:				
Cash and non-interest bearing deposits		\$ 3,330.4	\$ 2,727.5	
Interest bearing deposits		3,941.5	3,597.2	
Investment securities		1,953.7	2,214.4	
Trading account securities		263.0	282.8	
Other short-term investments		521.9	480.1	
Loans		20,296.6	15,803.3	
Lease financing receivables		499.8	433.6	
Total loans and lease receivables		20,796.4	16,236.9	
Less: Unearned income		149.3	120.1	
Reserve for credit losses		196.2	174.7	
Net loans and lease receivables		20,450.9	15,942.1	
Properties and equipment		205.7	177.8	
Customers' liability on acceptances		1,022.2	463.1	
Other assets		926.2	738.2	
Total assets		\$32,615.5	\$26,603.2	
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Deposits:				
Domestic—Demand		\$ 3,743.7	\$ 4,041.2	
Savings		1,345.1	1,397.8	
Other time		4,846.8	5,293.6	
Deposits in foreign offices		11,245.2	7,871.2	
Total deposits		21,180.8	18,603.8	
Short-term borrowings		7,581.5	5,408.4	
Acceptances outstanding		1,031.7	487.1	
Accounts payable and other liabilities		888.3	598.9	
Bonds, mortgages and similar debt		541.0	455.8	
Total liabilities		31,323.4	25,534.0	
<b>Stockholders' Equity</b>				
Preferred stock—without par value:				
Authorized: 10,000,000 shares, none issued				
Common stock—\$5 par value:				
Authorized: 80,000,000 shares both years				
Issued and outstanding: 1979—39,190,385 shares				
1978—35,623,545 shares		196.0	178.1	
Capital surplus		508.9	428.8	
Retained earnings		587.2	462.3	
Total stockholders' equity		1,282.1	1,069.2	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity		\$32,615.5	\$26,603.2	

OFFICES IN UK: London Branch, Continental Bank House, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4. Representative Office, 9 St. Colme Street, Edinburgh. MERCHANT BANKING: Continental Illinois Limited, Continental Bank House, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4. INVESTMENT SERVICES: Continental Illinois International Investment Corporation, Continental Bank House, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4. OTHER EUROPEAN OFFICES: Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, Liege, Madrid, Paris, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Munich, Vienna, Geneva, Zurich, Milan, Rome, Athens, Prague and Thessaloniki.

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## THE LONG-TERM CREDIT BANK OF JAPAN, LIMITED

U.S. \$10,000,000

Negotiable Floating Rate Certificates of Deposit

Maturity Date 28th January 1982

Managed by

Nippon European Bank S.A.

July 1979



## Mystery buyer of Waltons revealed

By John Rogers in Sydney  
A GROUP of Melbourne businessmen associated with Mr. John Gandel, the head of the Sussan fashion chain, yesterday revealed that it was the mystery party negotiating to take an interest in the large Sydney retailer, Waltons. The disclosure came after the Sydney Stock Exchange had queried the Waltons Board over the identity of the buying party.

The query was sparked off by an announcement earlier in the day that the then-unnamed Melbourne group had revised sharply its offer to buy the Waltons staff fund's 17.7 per cent interest in the retailer for A\$1 a share. This followed the overnight statement from Waltons that it might tumble into the red in its year to July 31.

The offer is for the Melbourne group to take up a 4.4 per cent interest from the staff fund at A\$1 a share with the option to take up a further 4.4 per cent within six months. Waltons' directors, who also serve on the board of the staff fund, last night accepted this offer.

Mr. Gandel said that he thought that his team "could contribute to the on-going progress of the Waltons group." He would not comment on the possibility of his group making a full bid for Waltons, but added that a further statement could be expected today on his group's intentions.

The share market, it seemed, lost its enthusiasm for a possible takeover yesterday, with Waltons' shares losing 9 cents to 68c on solid turnover.

## Property trust increases

By Our Financial Staff  
GENERAL Property Trust, the quoted property wing of Australia's largest developers, Lend Lease Corporation, reports both revenue and assets up by 33 per cent for the six months to June 1979. Distribution to unit holders is lifted to 7.1 cents per unit from 6.7 cents.

## MHI boosted by motors as shipbuilding slumps

BY YOKO SHIBATA IN TOKYO

MITSUBISHI Heavy Industries (MHI) lifted consolidated net profits by 10 per cent to ¥22.48bn (US\$104.8m) in the year to March, on consolidated sales of ¥240.5bn (\$11.22bn), up 2 per cent over 1977-78. Profit per share was ¥10.12 compared with ¥9.41 a year earlier.

Thirty-three subsidiaries, including Mitsubishi Motors and Mitsubishi Aircraft International, were included in the consolidation. Because of a reluctance to accept new shipbuilding orders priced below cost, and a cutback in shipbuilding capacity, the company's shipbuilding and steel structure department accounted for only 9.6 per cent of the total sales, plunging by 61.2 per cent from a year earlier. Stronger com-

petition in the land machinery division, sent prime mover division sales (12.3 per cent of the total) down by 7.0 per cent. Ordinary machinery division sales (which accounted for 7.8 per cent) rose insignificantly, by 1.6 per cent.

The poor showings in these divisions were made up for by Mitsubishi Motors, sales of which went up by 17.9 per cent, to account for 43.7 per cent of MHI's consolidated total.

Helped by brisk sales of chemical plant to the Middle East, MHI's chemical plant division revenue (accounting for 7.9 per cent) shot up by 149.7 per cent.

The company has announced the terms and conditions of a 10m Kuwaiti dinar ordinary debenture, which will be issued on July 31.

The issue carries a coupon rate of 7.5 per cent per annum

with the issue price at 99.5 per cent of par value. This comes as the first attempt by a Japanese corporation to offer Arab currency-denominated debentures for public subscription. The company will list the issue on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. MHI said that Kuwait denominated debentures offered a hedge against U.S. dollar exchange fluctuations. Also the issuing cost was lower than that of dollar denominated debentures.

● The rise in profit at MHI on a consolidated basis contrasts strongly with the 35.7 per cent fall in after-tax profit, to ¥9.67bn reported in May for the parent company alone, on a fall in sales of 7.6 per cent to ¥1.274bn. Shipbuilding sales reported by the parent were down 55.6 per cent, to ¥184.5bn, from ¥416bn.

## Shangri-La profits doubled

BY GEORGIE LEE IN SINGAPORE

SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, one of Singapore's top hotels, registered a 94 per cent increase in group pre-tax profits for the half-year to June. The profit for the six months was \$810.02m (US\$47m), almost doubling the \$85.3m for the corresponding period last year.

The sales volume for the six months also rose sharply, by 45 per cent to \$827.9m (US\$13m). The hotel expects to maintain the current high level of occupancy and level of profitability for the rest of the current year.

Two other projects are in the pipeline. Shangri-La has been

promised a 15 per cent equity interest in a new 740 room hotel, also known as Shangri-La Hotel, being built in Tsim Sha Tsui East, in the Kowloon district in Hong Kong. There is a possibility that the stake could be increased to 20 per cent. The new hotel is due to commence operations in the autumn of next year.

It has also taken up a 12.5 per cent stake in Raffles City Private, a company formed by the development Bank of Singapore to own and develop the massive property development project, known as Raffles City and costing \$860m (US\$280m). Raffles City, among other things, will include two hotels with a combined capacity of 2,200 rooms. This project is expected to be completed between 1983 and 1984.

## Upturn at Malayan Credit

BY OUR SINGAPORE CORRESPONDENT

MALAYAN CREDIT, the local property developer and investment company, more than doubled group profits before tax in the year to March. Pre-tax profits rose by 126 per cent to \$84.3m (US\$2m), while at the post tax level, profit was \$81.58m, against a loss of \$80.6m.

The recovery, which was already evident at the halfway stage, is clearly the result of the significant improvement in the property market in Singapore and Malaysia.

The recovery, which was

## EXTERNAL FUNDING

## Hong Kong relies on London and Singapore

BY PHILIP BOWRING IN HONG KONG

THE FIRST published data on external liabilities and claims of Hong Kong banks and deposit taking companies — many of which are locally incorporated subsidiaries of international banks — show a reliance on London and Singapore for funding, and heavy emphasis on shipping loans in claims on non-bank customers.

As at the end of March, liabilities of local banks to banks outside Hong Kong totalled U.S.\$11.5bn, of which \$2.9bn was due to banks in the UK, \$2.6bn to Singapore and \$2.0bn to the U.S. Other significant sources included Bahrain, at \$0.7bn and Bahamas at \$0.5bn.

Total claims by foreign banks against deposit taking institutions totalled \$4.9bn, of which \$1.8bn was to Singapore, \$1.3bn to the UK, and \$0.5bn to the U.S. Other significant lenders included Japan, \$0.4bn, and France \$0.15bn — and Egypt \$0.1bn.

These statistics have been produced by Hong Kong for the first time, at the request of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). They will be published quarterly and be provided to the BIS for inclusion in its manual of statistics on external indebtedness. At present they give no breakdown into maturities, or into currencies otherwise than into Hong Kong dollars and foreign currencies. However refinements may be forthcoming in the future.

Liabilities to and claims on banks are based on the country of the branch making or accepting the deposit. Claims on non-bank customers are classified according to the country of incorporation of the borrower.

Claims of Hong Kong banks on external non-bank customers totalled \$US3.3bn. Liberia headed the list with \$0.6bn as a result of shipping loans, with Panama at \$0.12bn. Otherwise regional borrowers were very much in the fore, led by Indonesia at \$0.57bn, Korea at \$0.3bn, and Australia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Philippines, and Thailand, all significant.

Total bank claims on banks outside Hong Kong totalled

\$5.5bn but it is not possible to separate out short-term inter-bank bank business and term loans to central banks, and national development banks. Though international institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank count as non-bank customers, central banks and national development banks, which are important borrowers in the Asian region, do not claim on South Korean banks. \$0.6bn, assumed to be mostly syndicated term loans to institutions such as the Korean Exchange Bank and Korean Development Bank. On the other hand claims on Singapore, UK, and U.S. banks — totalling \$3.3bn are assumed to be largely short-term.

The figures show claims on New Hebrides banks of \$1.2bn, indicating how significant the South Pacific territory is becoming as a banking centre. It is also evident from the figures that, contrary to popular belief, Hong Kong is little used by banks as a centre for booking or "garaging" loans to European customers.

Another interesting statistic is that claims on banks in China totalled \$1bn, of which three quarters was denominated in Hong Kong dollars. This is thought mainly to represent claims by the Bank of China and other mainland banks in Hong Kong on banks in the Peoples Republic, rather than being mainly advanced by foreign banks to China.

The figures also show that Macao banks have nearly \$200m with Hong Kong banks, though mostly not in Hong Kong dollars, which must represent a major part of the liquidity of Macao banks.

Figures for deposit taking companies show \$4bn due from non-bank foreign borrowers and \$1.8bn due from banks. Shipping is even more predominant with Liberia and Panama together accounting for \$1.4bn or 38 per cent on non-bank claims. Other major borrowers included Philippines, Indonesia, Korea and Japan.

U.S. \$20,000,000

Kay Capital N.Y.

Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes  
Due 1985

Kay Corporation

In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that the rate of interest for the initial three month period from 26th July, 1979 to 25th October, 1979 has been fixed at 12 3/4% per annum.

The first interest payment date will be 26th October, 1979. Payment of the first interest payment, which will amount to U.S. \$316.25 per Note, will be made only through EURO-CLEAR in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Notes.

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited  
Reference AgentWeekly net asset value  
on July 23, 1979Tokyo Pacific Holdings N.V.  
U.S. \$67.42Tokyo Pacific Holdings (Seaboard) N.V.  
U.S. \$49.12

Listed on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange

Information: Plerson, Holdings &amp; Finance, NW, The Hague 214, Amsterdam.

VONTSEL EUROBOOND INDICES

PRICE INDEX	17.78	24.79	AVERAGE YIELD	17.78	24.79
DM Bonds	88.88	100.22	DM Bonds	7.337	7.280
HFL Bonds & Notes	86.72	98.36	HFL Bonds & Notes	8.159	8.072
U.S. \$ Int. Bonds	86.38	98.36	U.S. \$ Int. Bonds	8.523	8.618
Can. Dollar Bonds	87.52	97.39	Can. Dollar Bonds	9.989	10.034

ALLEN HARVEY &amp; ROSS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD.

45 Cornhill, London EC3V 3PB. Tel. 01-623 6314.

Index Guide as at July 19, 1979

Capital Fixed Interest Portfolio 116.18

Income Fixed Interest Portfolio 105.90

## The war that never ends

We British are a peaceful people. When a war is over we like to consign it to the history books — and forget it.

But for some the wars live on. The disabled from both World Wars and from lesser campaigns, now all too easily forgotten; the widows, the orphans and the children — for them their war lives on, every day and all day.

In many cases, of course, there is help from a pension. But there is a limit to what any Government Department can do.

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U.S. \$200,000,000  
Eight Year Floating-Rate Multicurrency Loan

Guaranteed By

Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale  
I.R.I.

Managed By

DG BANK Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank The Sanwa Bank, Limited  
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Banque Européenne de Crédit (BEC) S.A.  
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The Sumitomo Bank Limited  
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Bayerische Landesbank Girozentrale  
The Commercial Banking Co of Sydney Ltd  
The Daiwa Bank Limited  
Daiwa Europe N.V.  
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Société Anonyme  
First Canadian Financial Corporation BV  
The Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Limited  
Hypobank International S.A.  
Japan International Bank Limited

Lloyds Bank International Limited  
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The Saitama Bank, Ltd.  
The Sanwa Bank, Limited  
Saudi International Bank  
Al-Bank Al-Saudi Al-Alami Limited  
Société Européenne de Banque SA  
The Sumitomo Bank Limited  
The Sumitomo Trust and Banking Co., Ltd.  
The Taiyo Kobe Bank, Limited  
UBAE Arab Italian Bank S.p.A.

July 1979

## Benue Cement Company Limited

\$50,000,000  
Seven Year Loan

Guaranteed by

## The Federal Republic of Nigeria

Managed by

Baring Brothers &amp; Co., Limited

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A.A.F.S. AG  
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United States Trust Company of  
New York (Grand Cayman Branch)

Funds provided by

Continental Illinois National Bank  
and Trust Company of Chicago

International Commercial Bank Limited

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Co. s.a.k.The Riggs National Bank of  
Washington, D.C.Saudi International Bank  
Al-Bank Al-Saudi Al-Alami Limited

Security Pacific Bank

United States Trust Company of  
New York (Grand Cayman Branch)

Agent

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مكاتب التمويل



# CURRENCIES, MONEY and GOLD

## Pound steady

STERLING remained steady against major currencies yesterday in a comparatively quiet trading day. There was little in the way of fresh news to affect trading, and the Bank of England figures for the pounds trade-weighted index finished unchanged from Tuesday at 73.6, having stood at 73.4 at noon and 73.6 in the morning. Against the dollar it opened at \$2.3200-2.3245 and rose to \$2.3260-2.3270 before easing to \$2.3120.

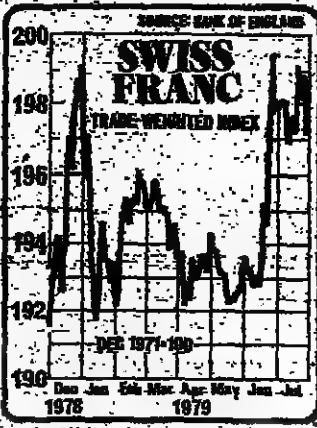
DM 1.8090 against the D-mark, and SwFr 1.6460 from SwFr 1.6340 in terms of the Swiss franc. It was also firm against the Japanese yen at ¥215.10 from ¥214.30. Using Bank of England figures, the dollar's trade-weighted index rose to 83.5 from 83.7.

Recent efforts to suppress the D-mark against the dollar helped weaker members of the EMS, and the weakest member yesterday, the Danish krone, was trading comfortably within its divergence limit against the ECU and was above its floor level against the D-mark.

FRANKFURT—The dollar was fixed at DM 1.8150 yesterday, up from Tuesday's level of DM 1.8085, and there was no intervention by the Bundesbank at that time. Trading took place within a fairly narrow range in anticipation of President Carter's Press conference later in the day, with short covering pushing up the rate.

MILAN—The lira lost ground against the dollar and sterling but improved against its EMS partners. The dollar was quoted at L1.8155 compared with L1.8125 previously, with support at the fixing by the Bank of Italy. Sterling rose to a record level of L1.8545 against Tuesday's level of L1.8382, while the D-mark was fixed lower at L4.90 from L4.905.

TOKYO—The dollar closed slightly firmer against the yen at ¥214.75, compared with ¥213.925 on Tuesday. However, this was mainly a reflection of position squaring, as the dollar steadied in other foreign exchange centres. After opening at ¥214.0 the U.S. unit touched a high ¥214.80 just prior to the close.



### THE POUND SPOT AND FORWARD

July 25	Day's spread	Close	One month	% p.a.	Three months	% p.a.
U.S.	2.3110-2.3220	2.3210-2.3220	0.80-0.70c pm	3.85	1.77-1.67 pm	2.96
Canada	2.5940-2.7065	2.7045-2.7065	0.70-0.80c pm	2.88	1.70-1.60 pm	2.44
Netherlands	4.50-4.64	4.53-4.64	25-35c pm	2.32	40-30 pm	2.08
Belgium	55.95-57.25	57.20-57.30	15c pm	2.32	40-30 pm	2.08
Denmark	12.05-12.11	12.05-12.10	1-2c dis	-1.49	4-5c dis	-1.82
Ireland	1.1080-1.1125	1.1085-1.1105	25-35c dis	-3.24	77-87 dis	-3.85
W. Ger	4.134-2.25	4.21-4.22	31-20c pm	8.18	0-7c pm	7.24
Portugal	111.00-112.00	112.20-112.50	40-100c dis	-7.48	120-220 dis	-6.05
Spain	183.70-184.40	184.10-184.20	200-250c dis	-17.51	510-610 dis	-14.53
Italy	1885-1895	1890-1894	31-31c dis	2.85	13-16 dis	3.06
Norway	11.50-11.56	11.53-11.54	6-4c pm	5.15	14-12 pm	4.47
France	5.75-5.82	5.81-5.82	3-2c pm	3.06	5-4c pm	2.14
Sweden	6.55-6.74	6.61-6.62	10c pm-10c dis	2.85	10c pm-10c dis	0.31
Japan	205-208	205-208	430-330c pm	9.91	1050-1050c pm	8.27
Austria	30.85-31.00	30.83-30.98	22-12 gro. pm	5.59	56-45 gro.	6.46
Switz	3.78-3.82	3.80-3.81	4-3c pm	12.80	12-11c dis	12.47

### THE DOLLAR SPOT AND FORWARD

July 25	Day's spread	Close	One month	% p.a.	Three months	% p.a.
UK	2.3110-2.3220	2.3210-2.3220	0.80-0.70c pm	3.85	1.77-1.67 pm	2.96
Ireland	2.0850-2.0915	2.0855-2.0915	0.08-0.08c pm	0.88	3.40-3.10 pm	6.22
Canada	85.83-85.92	85.83-85.92	1.40-1.10c pm	7.18	0.12-0.03 pm	0.48
Netherlands	1.5850-1.5870	1.5850-1.5870	0.20-0.20c pm	1.55	0.35-0.78 pm	1.35
Belgium	28.99-29.01	28.99-29.01	2-4c dis	-1.24	4-6 dis	-0.69
Denmark	5.2850-5.2150	5.2850-5.2150	1.50-2.00c dis	-4.03	5-25-75 dis	-4.22
W. Ger	4.13-4.22	4.21-4.22	31-20c pm	8.18	0-7c pm	7.24
Portugal	111.00-112.00	112.20-112.50	40-100c dis	-7.48	120-220 dis	-6.05
Spain	183.70-184.40	184.10-184.20	200-250c dis	-17.51	510-610 dis	-14.53
Italy	1885-1895	1890-1894	31-31c dis	2.85	13-16 dis	3.06
Norway	11.50-11.56	11.53-11.54	6-4c pm	5.15	14-12 pm	4.47
France	5.75-5.82	5.81-5.82	3-2c pm	3.06	5-4c pm	2.14
Sweden	6.55-6.74	6.61-6.62	10c pm-10c dis	2.85	10c pm-10c dis	0.31
Japan	205-208	205-208	430-330c pm	9.91	1050-1050c pm	8.27
Austria	30.85-31.00	30.83-30.98	22-12 gro. pm	5.59	56-45 gro.	6.46
Switz	3.78-3.82	3.80-3.81	4-3c pm	12.80	12-11c dis	12.47

### CURRENCY RATES

July 24	Bank rate	Special Drawing Rights	European Currency Unit
Sterling	14	0.564783	0.604538
U.S.	20	1.21250	1.40487
Canada	10	1.5850	1.8355
Australia	34	1.74070	1.8395
Belgian F.	9	37.9625	40.5305
Finland Mark	10	6.55-6.57	7.0125
D. Mark	8	3.7103	2.5375
Guil.	8	2.8040	2.7837
French F.	100	6.55-6.57	6.55-6.57
Lira	100	1067.06	1142.16
Yen	84	280.875	301.162
Norwegian Kr.	8	6.5778	7.04051
Spanish P.	8	7.0101	8.5357
Swedish Kr.	7	4.4880	5.97728
Swiss F.	1	1.3575	1.59994

### CURRENCY MOVEMENTS

July 24	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty changes %
Sterling	72.6	-21.8
U.S. dollar	85.9	9.2
Canadian dollar	80.6	-17.1
Australian dollar	147.7	-15.8
Belgian franc	114.9	+13.6
Danish krone	113.9	+2.5
Deutsche Mark	152.0	+42.3
Swiss franc	127.2	+1.8
Guil.	123.4	+18.1
French franc	99.0	-7.6
Yen	55.8	-49.0
Yen	122.3	+20.9

### OTHER MARKETS

July 26	\$	£	Notes Rates
Argentina Peso	5140-5180	1558-1582	50-51
Australia Dollar	8.0420-8.0470	0.8800-0.8815	59.5-70.5
Brazil Cruzeiro	69.93-69.95	85.80-85.85	12.00-12.10
Finland Mark	6.55-6.57	7.0125	8.70-8.80
Greek Drachma	83.754-85.750	35.05-35.95	4.15-4.25
Hong Kong Dollar	11.97-11.99	3.1710-3.1780	1.850-1.900
Iran Rial	10.17-10.18	0.0000	0.0000
Kuwait Dinar	0.53-0.54	0.2743-0.2744	4.65-4.65
Luxembourg Fr.	67.50-67.50	38.97-38.97	11.85-11.70
Malaysia Dollar	4.65-4.67	1.178-1.178	0.0000
New Zealand Dir.	3.2400-3.2500	0.9685-0.9715	160-154
Saudi Arab. Riyal	7.75-7.88	8.3590-8.3590	2.75-2.80
Singapore Dollar	4.665-4.685	1.175-1.175	8.100-8.175
South African Rand	1.94-1.95	0.8555-0.8540	64-47

### EXCHANGE CROSS RATES

### EMS EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT RATES

July 25	U.S. Dollar	% change	U.S. Dollar	% change
Belgian Franc	33.9582	+0.5538	2.78	+1.20
Danish Krone	2.0852	+2.2345	+2.83	+1.38
Deutsche Mark	2.3210	+0.0000	0.00	+0.00
French Franc	6.5510	+0.0000	0.00	+0.00
Italian Lira	2.7207	+2.7907	+2.58	+0.28
Netherlands Guilder	2.0850	+0.0000	0.00	+0.00
Portuguese Escudo	114.15	+1.4154	-0.57	-0.25

### EURO-CURRENCY INTEREST RATES

July 25	Sterling	U.S. Dollar	Canadian Dollar	Dutch Guilder	Swiss Franc	West German Mark	French Franc	Italian Lira	Asian \$	Japanese Yen
Short term	14 1/2	10 1/2	9 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	10 1/2	25-31	10-10 1/2	2 1/2-4 1/2
3 months	14 1/2	10 1/2	9 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	10 1/2	25-31	10-10 1/2	2 1/2-4 1/2
6 months	14 1/2	10 1/2	9 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	10 1/2	25-31	10-10 1/2	2 1/2-4 1/2
9 months	14 1/2	10 1/2	9 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	10 1/2	25-31	10-10 1/2	2 1/2-4 1/2
12 months	14 1/2	10 1/2	9 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	10 1/2	25-31	10-10 1/2	2 1/2-4 1/2

### INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKET

#### Paris rates firmer

Money market rates rose sharply in Paris yesterday, as call money touched its highest level since March 17, last year. In the early morning a shortage of funds pushed the call rate up to 9 1/2 per cent from 9 1/4 per cent, and this was followed by an increase in period rates. One-month money rose to 9 1/4-10 1/4 per cent from 9 1/4-10 1/4 per cent; three-month to 10 1/4-10 1/4 per cent from 9 1/4-10 1/4 per cent; six-month to 10 1/4-10 1/4 per cent from 10 1/4-10 1/4 per cent; and one-year to 10 1/4-10 1/4 per cent from 10 1/4-10 1/4 per cent.

#### UK MONEY MARKET

#### Very large assistance

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 14 per cent (since June 12, 1979). Day-to-day credit was in short supply in the London money market yesterday, partly reflecting applications for the issue of 14 1/2 per cent Treasury stock. Other factors against the moderate amount lent to the houses on Tuesday, a small excess of revenue payments to the Exchequer over Government disbursements, and a small net take-up of Treasury bills. On the other hand banks brought forward moderate surplus balances, and there was a small decline in the note circulation.

#### LONDON MONEY RATES

July 25 1979	Sterling Certificate of deposit	Local Authority negotiable deposits	Finance House deposits	Company deposits	Discount Bank Treasury Bills	Eligible Bank Bills	Final Trade Bills
Overnight	11 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
1 day notice	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
7 days notice	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
One month	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
Three months	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
Six months	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
Nine months	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
One year	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
Two years	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4

#### FRANCE

Local authority and finance houses seven days' notice, others seven days fixed. "Long-term local authority mortgage loans, nominally three years, 12 1/2-13 per cent; four years 12 1/2-13 per cent; five years 12 1/2-13 per cent. Bank bill rates in Paris are rates for prime paper. Buying rates for four-month bank bills 13 1/2 per cent; four-month trade bills 14 1/2 per cent. Approximate selling rate for one-month Treasury bills 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; two-month 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; three-month 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; six-month 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; nine-month 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; one-year 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent; two-year 13 1/2-13 3/4 per cent. Finance House Base Rate (published by the Finance Houses Association) 13 per cent from July 1, 1979. Clearing Bank Deposit Rates for small sums at seven days' notice 17 1/2-12 per cent. Closing Bank Rates for lending 14 per cent. Treasury Bills: Average tender rates of discount 12.555 per cent.

### GOLD

#### Weaker tendency

AMSTERDAM—Call money was unchanged at 8 1/4 per cent. One-month was quoted at 9 1/4 per cent, compared with 9 1/4 per cent yesterday. Three-month fell to 9 1/4 per cent from 9 1/4 per cent. Six-month funds were 9 1/4 per cent, compared with 9 1/4 per cent. BRUSSELS—One-month and three-month money was unchanged at 12 1/4 per cent. Six-month was quoted at 11 1/4 per cent, compared with 11 1/4 per cent, and 12-month at 10 1/4 per cent, compared with 10 1/4 per cent. Call money rose to 9 1/4 per cent from 7 1/4 per cent.

#### MONEY RATES

July 25	July 24
Gold Bullion (fine ounce)	305 1/2-306 1/2
Close	305 1/2-306 1/2
Opening	304 1/2-305 1/2
Morning	304 1/2-305 1/2
Afternoon	304 1/2-305 1/2
Evening	304 1/2-305 1/2

#### NEW YORK

July 25	July 24
Prime Rate	11 1/2-11 3/4
Discount Rate	10 1/2
Overnight Rate	10 1/2
One month	10 1/2
Three months	10 1/2
Six months	10 1/2

#### GERMANY

July 25	July 24
Discount Rate	5
Overnight Rate	5
One month	5
Three months	5
Six months	5

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

# S M E

## Società Meridionale Finanziaria S.p.A.

### U.S. \$ 40,000,000

#### Medium Term Loan

Arranged By  
Società Europea di Banque S.A.

Managed By  
Banco di Santo Spirito (Luxembourg)  
Bank of Montreal  
BfG LUXEMBURG  
Società Europea di Banque S.A.  
Turis AG

Funds Provided By  
Banca Commerciale Italiana (London Branch)

In Association With  
Bank of Montreal  
Società Europea di Banque S.A.  
Turis AG  
Banco di Santo Spirito (Luxembourg)  
BfG LUXEMBURG  
First Pennsylvania Bank N.A.  
Hypobank International S.A.

Maibl Bermuda (Far East) Limited  
Banque Commerciale pour l'Europe du Nord (Eurobank)  
Banque Continentale du Luxembourg S.A.  
Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A.  
Banque Rothschild  
Luxembourg Italian Bank S.A.

July 1979

## Group profit exceeds £10m for the first time in the Company's history.

	1979	1978
Group turnover	£63,614,000	£52,564,000
Exports from U.K.	£20,995,000	£16,381,000
Profit before taxation	£10,761,000	£9,648,000
Earnings per share	61.9p	53.4p

Highlights from the annual Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Richard Dunhill:

- Turnover increased by 21%.
- Pre-tax profits increased by 11.5% and earnings per share by 15.8%.
- Financial resources remain strong.
- Position in traditional smokers' products consolidated.
- Substantial growth in non-traditional and fashion products.
- Continued emphasis on organisational structure and management development.
- Major opportunities for future success in the international marketing of luxury consumer products.
- Strength gained from association with well-known companies in the luxury field.
- The prestige and standing of Dunhill has never been higher.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 25th July, 1979

### ALFRED DUNHILL LIMITED

30 DUKE STREET, SAINT JAMES'S, LONDON SW1Y 6DL



## Favourable news gives Wall St. early boost

INVESTMENT DOLLAR PREMIUM  
\$2.60 to \$1.30 (191%)  
Effective \$2.315 71% (61%)

A POSITIVE reaction to the nomination of Paul A. Volcker as chairman of the Federal Reserve and a spate of dividend increases gave a fresh uplift to the Wall Street stock market yesterday morning in an active business.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, after picking up 4.27 on Tuesday, advanced 8.33 to

The dividend increases included one by Exxon, the world's largest oil company. Exxon climbed 1 1/2 to \$54 on raising the quarterly dividend to \$1.00 per share from 80 cents.

Dividend increases were also reported by Bethlehem Steel, Eaton, Celanese, Steelkline and Burroughs. However, the effect was mixed, with stock prices of some advancing more than a point and one, Celanese, easing a fraction.

McGraw-Hill rose 1 1/2 to \$27. It is bidding \$51.50 a share for Studebaker-Packard, which jumped 4 1/2 to \$49.

In the energy group, Cities Service gained 1 1/2 to \$69. Ashland Oil (I) to \$39. Marathon Oil (I) to \$37 1/2. El Paso (I) to \$21 1/2. Ashland reported higher fiscal third-quarter net profits and the rest announced improved second-quarter earnings.

General Foods hardened 1 1/2 to \$31 on higher first-quarter earnings. Goodyear Tire shed 1 1/2 to \$29 on reduced second-quarter results.

THE AMERICAN SE Market Value Index advanced 1.11 to 196.53 at 1 p.m. Volume 2.09m shares (1.98m).

Volume leader Resorts International gained 1 1/2 to \$49 on rebounding from weakness on Tuesday. Energy stocks were prominent on the active list.

Great Basin Petroleum rose 1

to \$141. Gulf Canada (I) to \$471. Dome Petroleum (I) to \$391 and Crystal Oil (I) to \$201. Canadian Homestead Oil hardened 1 1/2 to \$17 1/2, but Intercontinental Gas eased 1 1/2 to \$13 1/2. Plans for a merger of the two companies, with Canadian holders set to vote on a procedural move that will clear the way for a vote on a merger.

Canada Shares prices mainly plotted a firm course in a fairly active early trade, but the Golds sector was a weak exception, retreating 26.9 to 1.843.8 on index.

The Toronto Composite Index moved ahead 8.4 to 1,555.5 at mid-day, while Oils and Gas advanced 30.8 to 2,675.0 and Metals and Minerals 8.3 to 1,305.3. In Montreal, Utilities gained 1.35 to 227.2 and Papers 0.51 to 175.49.

Higher earnings led the Oil sector higher as Shell Canada rose 1 1/2 to \$23 1/2. Canadian Occidental Petroleum (I) to \$34 1/2 and Imperial Oil (I) to \$34 1/2.

Tokyo With fresh buying by investment trusts prompting the general investor confidence to market purchases, stocks mainly made further progress in a fair business.

The Nikkei-Dow Jones Average advanced 39.40 more to 6,250.31,

while the Tokyo SE Index strengthened 2.33 to 443.20 and volume came to 270m shares (250m).

Blue Chips and Populists were to the fore of the advance, followed by Energy-related issues, Construction, Foods and Pharmaceuticals.

Sony rose Y40 to Y1,970. Nippon Oil Y50 to Y1,560. Canon Y9 to Y529. Pioneer Electronic Y20 to Y1,940 and Nissan Motors Y7 to Y465.

Hitachi improved Y5 to Y340 following reports that it has reached basic agreement to sell 11 computers to China.

Among Trading Houses, weak of late on the recent rise in the Bank of Japan's Discount Rate. Mitsui recovered Y13 to Y339 but Mitsubishi receded Y8 more to Y511.

Germany Market partially recovered in modest activity after a weak opening, leaving mainly modest losses on the day. The Commerzbank index finished 1.34 easier at 745.0.

However, Store issues remained under pressure, with Karstadt and Herten each recording falls of DM 3.50 and Karstadt DM 2.00. In contrast, Machine Manufacturers met fresh support with KHD adding DM 2.00, GHH DM 1.80 and

Deutsche Babcock DM 3.30, but Linde was an exception, shedding DM 1.80.

Some market sources said there had been some movement of funds out of Stores amid concern that the recent oil price rises would further strain consumer spending power, while Machines seemed a likely target for such shifting funds in view of steady gains for the sector in the past few weeks.

Banks and Chemicals ended generally lower although net changes rarely exceeded DM 1.50. Exceptionally, Dresdner Bank lost DM 1.80 and Ruetgerswerke DM 3.00. Electricals, Motors and Utilities were mixed, while Steels finished unchanged to lower.

On the Domestic Bond market, Tuesday's firm tone was maintained, with Public Authority issues led up to DM 1.00 higher by the 6 per cent Bundesbahn, 1977. The Bundesbank sold DM 63.5m nominal of paper, with the emphasis on eight to 10-year maturities.

Hong Kong The market showed renewed firmness in fairly active trading after a temporary setback on Tuesday, with the Hang Seng index gaining 2.31 to 594.80.

Early buying was followed by profit-taking towards lunch-time, but the last two hours of trading saw renewed local speculative interest, accounting for most of the day's gains.

Again Blue Chip and Property shares led the market, which was given impetus by improved performance of the local property market, with the Hang Seng index gaining 2.31 to 594.80.

Early buying was followed by profit-taking towards lunch-time, but the last two hours of trading saw renewed local speculative interest, accounting for most of the day's gains.

Amey Canning advanced HK\$1.50 to HK\$7.00 on speculation that Sime Darby may bid up to HK\$8.00 a share for the company. Amey is a subsidiary of China Engineers for which Sime

has already announced terms to acquire the shares in the company that it does not already own.

East Asia Navigation improved 10 cents to HK\$6.00 on expectations of good first-quarter results being announced next week.

Paris Stocks again closed on a mixed note after slow trading.

Food, Department Stores, Metals, Oils and Chemicals, and Properties were steady, but Mechanical Engineering, and Electricals eased.

Sacilor put on FF 3.50 to FF 23.50 after news that it had reached agreement to acquire S. Nouvelles des Acieries de Pompey and its parent company, S. D'Interessment et de Participation, Pompey were unchanged at FF 30.

Moulinex gained FF 1.50 to FF 65.50 on announcing higher first-half 1979 consolidated turnover.

Australia After a poor start, markets began to pick up around mid-session and finished with mixed results. The All Ordinaries index ended 1.10 higher at 459.50.

The turning point came after the release of the June unemployment figures, which showed a rise of 2.7 per cent, making an 8.8 per cent total increase for the fiscal year. Stock markets had been expecting an increase of up to 3.5 per cent for the quarter.

Bargain hunters lifted market leader BHP 18 cents to A\$9.22 despite news of an explosion in a BHP coal mine that killed 14 workers. However, this news was also a boost for other coal companies, already nervous from the Bellambi loss.

There was a round of heavy selling in Retailers Waltons on a forecast of a big second-half trading loss, the stock closing 10 cents down at 95 cents. The heavy selling was also a boost for other retail companies, already nervous from the Bellambi loss.

Notes: Overseas prices shown below are for the closing of the day. All prices are in US dollars unless otherwise stated. All prices are in US dollars unless otherwise stated.

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# New group to seek public views on animal welfare

BY CHRISTOPHER PARKES

THE PUBLIC and interested organisations have been invited to share their views and information on farm animal welfare with a new advisory council set up by the Ministry of Agriculture.

According to public opinion, plus wider terms of reference, the new group will be the Farm Animal Welfare Council, which replaces the Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Committee. Mr. Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday.

The council will continuously review animal welfare on farms, at markets and in transit, but Mr. Walker does not plan to give a list of topics for immediate investigation. That, he said, would remove the power and independence of the council to draft its own priorities.

Conditions on intensive pig and poultry farms have excited public controversy in recent years.

Chairman of the council is Prof. R. J. Harrison, leader of the committee being replaced, and members include the chief vet and executive director of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The Home Office is also to reconstitute its existing committee which oversees observance of the 1976 Cruelty to Animals Act into the Advisory Committee on Animal Experiments.

Mr. Timothy Raison, Minister of State for Home Affairs, said the 1976 Act was to be withdrawn and replaced with new legislation in line with the proposed Council of Europe convention on the protection of laboratory animals.

Announcing the farm welfare council, Mr. Walker said he also plans to try to tighten controls in the EEC. With the help of ministers from Denmark, Ger-

many and Holland, he was setting up a committee of officials. And he hoped this group would provide information to enable the Commission to propose formal changes in Community regulations.

The Minister said he was anxious to make a great deal of effective progress in animal welfare.

Other immediate plans include extra legal safeguards to protect livestock for export and up-dating of some existing laws governing the care of farm animals.

"We intend to press vigorously for the introduction of an EEC requirement that the actual journey of farm animals to the slaughterhouse should not last more than 12 hours," he told the Commons.

This should apply within each Community country as well as in intra-Community trade.

# Apple watchdogs to monitor marketing

BY CHRISTOPHER PARKES

A GROUP of fruit marketing experts will patrol wholesale markets this autumn in a bid to prevent a repetition of the chaos last year when the poor quality of UK apples led to a prices slump and bitter recriminations over the standards of home producers.

The newly-formed Apple and Pear Development Council Information Group will check on the quality of apples and pears on offer and advise growers on the sizes and qualities likely to sell best.

In March, a post-mortem of the disasters of last season attacked British suppliers for putting on sale "shrivelled, bruised, over-mature" fruit in dirty old boxes in competition with "spotless" imports.

This year the Council expects even fiercer competition from overseas. The strength of sterling has added attractions to exporters in Europe and elsewhere.

The French, for example, are planning to send Golden Delicious much earlier than normal and first shipments are expected early next month. There is also a danger of late supplies of Southern Hemisphere apples over-hanging the market.

Two shiploads are on their way from Tasmania at present, and at least one other cargo is expected. British traders also suggest that Chile, which was engaged by attempts to force it

# Coffee bounces back

By Our Commodities Staff

COFFEE PRICES bounced up again on the London futures market yesterday following the sharp fall recorded earlier this week.

The September quotation ended the day 57.65 higher at £1.769 a tonne.

Dealers thought the sharp turnaround resulted from price support buying by the Bogota Group of Latin American coffee producers. In an "oversold" market they said this appeared to have encouraged heavy speculative buying and covering against earlier "short" sales.

In Kampala, meanwhile, a report on the state of the Ugandan economy, commissioned by the Ugandan Government, said management of the Uganda Coffee Marketing Board (UCMB) should be suspended pending investigations.

The report, compiled in May and June this year by 11 Commonwealth Secretariat experts, estimated losses to the coffee industry through war damage, vehicle losses, looting and theft at more than 182m Ugandan shillings (£13m).

Rat added the country had lost a further \$500m during the past three years through smuggling of coffee.

The total quantity smuggled to Kenya and other countries was around 125,000 to 135,000 tonnes out of total production of 555,000 tonnes, the report said.

Further losses occurred through theft from Kampala and Mombasa, with Marketing Board accounts registering 24,400 bags, worth \$4m, lost in 1976-77.

"The possibility of further losses arising through default on the part of CMR purchases cannot be ruled out," it added.

Reuter

# Fishing boat tin dredges block big operators

BY DILIP MUKERJEE IN KUALA LUMPUR

PRODUCTION of tin in Thailand rose by 34 per cent and exports by 36 per cent in the first five months of this year. Coming on top of the steady rise in production and exports since 1976, this means Thailand will almost certainly overtake Bolivia as the world's second largest tin producer this year.

This represents a remarkable comeback for Thailand, where the industry was on the decline in the early 1970s. The bottom was reached in 1973 when production fell to 15,400 tonnes, or 32 per cent less than at the 1968 peak. The subsequent recovery, which took output to 30,185 tonnes in 1978, owes as much to the stimulus of high prices of the last two and a half years as to a boom in offshore operations which contributed also 15,000 tonnes last year.

In 1978, Indonesia with a production of 27,366 tonnes, was pushed down to third place, while Bolivia was less than 700 tons ahead of Thailand.

But will the spurt in Thailand's production be sustained? One reason why it may not be is that a large part of the offshore output comes from shallow areas mined along Thailand's west coast. The operating vessels are little more than small fishing boats converted into suction dredges.

These boats, working one to three kilometres into the Andaman sea, are "picking the eyes out of the deposits," as industry observers say. Worse still, the leases obtained by the boat owners are blocking systematic exploitation by larger operators.

Bethlehem Steel and its associates decided not to take up a production-sharing contract last year because they considered the area offered to them was too small.

About a third of the boats out in the sea are thought to be operating illegally. A good deal of the tin mined by the boats is smuggled to Singapore for smelting. One industry source estimates the outflow in 1978 at 5,000 tonnes, or almost 10 per cent of last year's output.

But given the local support the boat fraternity has, Government curbs are largely ineffective in remote mining areas. Even if Bangkok wanted to take tough measures, this may probably produce an outcry that is squeezing the small men in the industry of the rapacious foreign countries. Pressures of this kind forced the civilian Government in power in 1975 to revoke the offshore mining lease of Thailand Exploration and Mining, a joint venture of Union Carbide and Royal Dutch Shell.

Shell is, however, back in the country under the Billiton flag, working on a production-sharing basis with Thailand's Offshore Mining Organisation set up by the Government in 1975. The organisation is negotiating with others, and plans to operate on its own as well when the dredge it has on order is ready.

But unless the role of small boats is defined by the Government on a rational basis, large-scale operations may be prevented from making their full contribution to the growth of the industry.

# Cuts urged in UK fishing fleet

BY RICHARD MOONEY

URGENT ACTION is needed to reduce the excess catching capacity of the British fishing fleet, Mr. Charles Meek, chairman of the White Fish Authority, said in London yesterday.

He said the Government should allocate money to "purchase" excess tonnage out of the industry.

"The country currently has more fishing boats than it needs to catch the fish that are available on quota within the next few years," Mr. Meek said.

But it was important that new investment should continue so that the fleet could keep up with technological advances.

"Britain needed a leaner but better and healthier fishing industry," the WFA chairman stated.

Mr. Meek was presenting the authority's 1979-80 annual report, which showed a further increase of 67,000 tonnes in the UK catch during 1978 to 940,000 tonnes. But the real value declined.

At present, he said, it was worth £24m, only 4 per cent up on the previous year.

Mr. Meek said the small

# U.S. tyre industry stagnates

AKRON, OHIO—Goodyear

Tire and Rubber expects little or no growth in the U.S. tyre market during the remainder of this year, Mr. Charles P. Hill, chairman, said after announcing the company's lower second quarter earnings yesterday.

He attributed the slowdown to President Carter's energy programme and the reduced output of U.S. automobile makers.

Mr. Hill said second quarter results were adversely affected by heavy start-up costs associated with Goodyear's \$400m expansion programme and added that these costs would be with the company for the rest of the year.

Reuter

# N. Zealand expects lamb exports boost to the U.S.

BY OUR COMMODITIES STAFF

NEW ZEALAND expects to raise sales of lamb to the U.S. next season to at least 2.5m carcasses—25 per cent more than in the current year, Mr. P. J. Wakelin, manager of the Meat Export Development Company (NZ) claimed.

This increase, coupled with the major rise in shipments expected to go to Iran next year, could lead to higher prices in the UK.

Mr. Wakelin said the company would be competing for a much higher percentage of lamb produced early in the season, which started in October. This would coincide with the period of peak demand and top prices in Britain when home-produced supplies are relatively short.

The New Zealand Lamb

# Sugar tenders start again

BRUSSELS—The EEC Commission will restart its weekly tenders for export subsidies for white sugar sold on world markets on August 8, Commission sources said.

The sources said although the export tenders for raw beet sugar remain closed, the Commission will open a new weekly tender on August 8 for small amounts of raw cane sugar which the EEC imports from the French overseas territories.

# Canada loses grain custom

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

CANADA HAS added Iran to its list of nations whose grain orders it cannot fulfil this year because of Canadian grain handling breakdowns.

The Canadian Wheat Board has had to inform the Iranians that grain handling and delivery complications preclude any grain deal with that country in 1979.

The Wheat Board received an exploratory telex from Iran's Cereals, Sugar and Tea Organisation earlier this spring.

In response to a request for an unspecified amount of third-grade wheat, the Board had to say "no," blaming the country's handling bottleneck.

The Board has had to turn down between 5m and 8m tonnes of grain orders already this year.

## BRITISH COMMODITY MARKETS

BASE METALS			
COPPER—Futures in quiet and steady trading on the London Metal Exchange. Forward metal edged up to \$22.50 in the morning, reflecting a rise in the sterling-dollar rate, and was steady at \$22.50-22.55 range by 11.30. Closing: 22.50. Turnover: 18,150 tonnes.			
ALUMINIUM—Futures trading reported quiet. Forward metal edged up to \$22.50 in the morning, reflecting a rise in the sterling-dollar rate, and was steady at \$22.50-22.55 range by 11.30. Closing: 22.50. Turnover: 18,150 tonnes.			
ZINC—Futures trading reported quiet. Forward metal edged up to \$22.50 in the morning, reflecting a rise in the sterling-dollar rate, and was steady at \$22.50-22.55 range by 11.30. Closing: 22.50. Turnover: 18,150 tonnes.			
TIN			
High Grade: 22.50-22.55			
Standard: 22.50-22.55			
Low Grade: 22.50-22.55			
LEAD			
High Grade: 22.50-22.55			
Standard: 22.50-22.55			
Low Grade: 22.50-22.55			

## COFFEE

COFFEE	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
July 1979	1721.38	+72.5 1720-TW
September 1979	1768.70	+78.5 1775-180
November 1979	1780.80	+80.0 1790-178
January 1980	1790.80	+80.0 1790-178
March 1980	1775.70	+80.0 1770-175
May 1980	1790.80	+80.0 1790-178
July 1980	1775.70	+80.0 1770-175

## PRICE CHANGES

July 26 1979	± or Month Ago
Aluminium: 2710.00	+10.00
Copper: 22.50	+0.05
Gold: 370.00	+0.00
Iron: 100.00	+0.00
Lead: 22.50	+0.05
Nickel: 22.50	+0.05
Platinum: 22.50	+0.05
Silver: 22.50	+0.05
Tin: 22.50	+0.05
Zinc: 22.50	+0.05

## INSURANCE BASE RATES

Vanburgh Guaranteed	113%
Property Growth	114%

## WHEAT

WHEAT	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
July 1979	1721.38	+72.5 1720-TW
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## WOOL FUTURES

WOOL FUTURES	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
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July 1980	1775.70	+80.0 1770-175

## GOLD OR COPPER?

Gold has been rising for three years, enhancing its status as the number one inflation hedge.

In contrast, Copper has fallen to a level which is close to the average cost of world production.

Gold or Copper... which has the better investment potential for the intermediate and longer term?

Tel: Mark King for views on 01 236 5211 or Nikolaus von Kegl on Dusseldorf 84321.

## SOYABEAN MEAL

SOYABEAN MEAL	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
July 1979	1721.38	+72.5 1720-TW
September 1979	1768.70	+78.5 1775-180
November 1979	1780.80	+80.0 1790-178
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July 1980	1775.70	+80.0 1770-175

## EUROPEAN MARKETS

EUROPEAN MARKETS	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
July 1979	1721.38	+72.5 1720-TW
September 1979	1768.70	+78.5 1775-180
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## ART GALLERIES

COMMERCIAL GALLERY, 60, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF, is a leading art gallery in London. It has a large collection of modern and contemporary art, including works by Picasso, Matisse, and Pollock. The gallery is open from 10am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

## TRAVEL

GENEVA, Zurich and Bern, UK and other European cities. Travel agents and tour operators can book flights and accommodation through our service. Contact us for more information.

## INDICES

INDICES	Yesterday's Close	± or Business Done
July 1979	1721.38	+72.5 1720-TW
September 1979	1768.70	+78.5 1775-180
November 1979	1780.80	+80.0 1790-178
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May 1980	1790.80	+80.0 1790-178
July 1980	1775.70	+80.0 1770-175



## LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

Sterling reaction prompts light profit-taking in Gilts  
Long tap subscription causes only mild disappointment

## Account Dealing Dates

## Option

## First Declared Last Account

## Dealings Ties Dealings Day

## July 16 July 27 Aug 6

## July 20 Aug 9 Aug 10 Aug 20

## Aug 13 Aug 23 Aug 24 Sept 3

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## Trade thereafter became spas-

## modic as a disposition emerged

## to await the long tap's debut this

## morning: the stock is expected to

## open at a slight discount to

## par (£15), but the course of

## sterling could alter this view.

## In a quiet trade after the

## official close, many high-coupon

## longs settled with losses extend-

## ing to 1/2 but Exchequer 12 1/2 per

## cent "A" 1998 was an isolated

## exception and fell 1/2 to 4 1/2. The

## mediums sustained similar falls

## and, although the shorter end of

## the market was a relative

## backwater, it presented losses

## ranging to 1.

## Suggestions of fresh oil price

## increases as a result of the

## dollar's plight cast a shadow over

## the equity sections. The power

## workers' threat of industrial

## action added to the worries

## currently being felt in connection

## with the UK labour scene and

## further inhibited investment

## interest. Continued small sales

## from public holders thus tended

## to weigh on the market, particu-

## larly in the Engineering sector.

## The FT 30-share index

## measured the continuing dull-

## ness with a fall of 3.4 at the 3 pm

## calculation, but on sporadic late

## bargain-covering the index rallied

## slightly to close a net 2.6 lower

## at 464.4. Falls commanded a

## four-to-one majority over rises in

## all FT-quoted industrials.

## A small business was effected

## in investment among the stocks

## traded, causing too much variation in

## the premium which hovered

## between 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 per cent

## before closing 1 1/2 harder on

## balance at 20 per cent. Yester-

## day's SE conversion factor was

## 0.9358 (0.9374).

## A particularly well-distributed

## business among the stocks traded

## resulted in 3.165 contracts being

## completed in Traded options, the

## highest since March 29. Marks

## and Spencer, 433, Courtaulds,

## 535, Cons. Gold Fields, 370, and

## GEC, 385 trades, all attracted a

## lively business.

## In the Chemical sector,

## Algate rose from 355p to 415p

## before being temporarily suspen-

## ded at the latter price following

## news that the Monopolies Com-

## mission had given clearance for

## both the Merck and FMC bids.

## MFI easier

## MFI Furniture remained an

## unsettled market since Monday's

## 5 1/2m share-placing, closing a

## further 6 p lower at 152p. Else-

## where in irregular stores, Sam-

## uel's share rose to 10 1/2p, while

## Walls became sensitive to

## revived selling and finished 1/2

## off at 70p. Bakers Household, how-

## ever, moved up 4 to 82p as did

## Foster Bros. to 124p. The leaders

## lacked support. W. H. Smith

## ended 3 down at 183p and

## House of Fraser 4 softer at 188p.

## Quiet conditions persisted in

## the Electrical sector. Leading

## issues were inclined easier, EMI

## closing 1/2 lower at 100p and GEC

## a penny cheaper at 350p. Scat-

## tered movements elsewhere were

## mainly against holders. Revived

## selling left Electrocomponents

## 10 lower at 42 1/2p, while Roca,

## 430p, and BICO, 118p, eased 4

## pence. Fresh scattered offerings

## left Ward and Goldstone 2 off

## at 90p.

## Dullness in the Engineering

## leaders was attributed rather

## more to the absence of support

## than any weight of selling. John

## Brown reacted to 430p, before

## settling a few pence above the

## worst at 439p, a loss of 12.

## Among the more modest losses,

## GKN, 278p, and Hawker, 184p,

## lost 4 apiece. Falls were more

## widespread than of late in sec-

## ondary issues where Braithwaite,

## down 5 at 78p, reflected the fall

## in annual profits. Staveley

## weakened fresh to 258p for a

## further loss of 6 on the profits

## expected early next month.

## Brewery leaders closed little

## altered on balance. Among

## Dietrich, Highland came in for

## support, rising a couple of pence

## to 100p, the new also 2 better

## at 13p premium go fully-paid

## today. The continuing fall of

## the punt against sterling again

## upset Irish, 6 off at 149p, but

## Lais Gorda, Highland renewed specu-

## lative demand, closing 5 higher

## at 45p. Merrydown, with figures

## expected early next month.

## Home Banks fall

## The major clearing banks took

## a distinct turn for the worse as

## comment on NatWest's interim

## results, in particular the none

## too generous dividend payment

## and Board's bullish remarks

## about second-half prospects,

## sparked off selling. Conse-

## quently, NatWest fell to close

## the day 15 down at 340p, after

## 338p, while Barclays, the next to

## report half-yearly figures today,

## ran back 16 to 450p after 446p.

## Ahead of tomorrow's interim

## statement, Midland closed 12 off

## at 350p, after 348p, while Lloyds,

## still reflecting adverse comment

## on the first-half results, gave up

## 10 more at 305p, after 304p.

## Elsewhere, Gilt Eds. Discount

## lost 5 to 246p in reaction to the

## gloomy interim statement; Allen

## Harvey and Ross cheapened 5 to

## 360p in sympathy. Merchant

## Banks came on offer with Klein-

## wort Benson 6 down at 124p and

## Witnurs a couple of pence

## easier at 90p. By way of con-

## trast, London Scottish Finance

## rose 3 to 53p on renewed specu-

## lative interest in a thin market.

## Quietly dull conditions pre-

## vailed in Insurance, Willis

## Faber lost 10 to 190p on small

## offerings and lack of support,

## while Phoenix relinquished 6 at

## 236p.

## Brewery leaders closed little

## altered on balance. Among

## Dietrich, Highland came in for

## support, rising a couple of pence

## to 100p, the new also 2 better

## at 13p premium go fully-paid

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## OFFSHORE AND OVERSEAS FUNDS

[illegible][illegible]

World Wide Growth Management  
10a, Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg







Grand Met.	14	Reed Ind.	16		
G.U.S. 'A'	30	Sears	53½		
Guardian	24	Spoilers	4½	Miners	
G.N.N.	28	Tesco	7	Charter Cons.	1½
Hawker Sid.	26	Thorn	35	Cons. Gold	2½
House of Fraser	18	Trust Houses	17	Rio T. Zinc	2½

A selection of Options traded is given on the London Stock Exchange Report page



